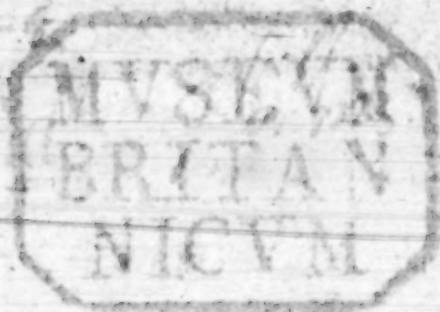


# **Nature.**

**A** goodly interlude of Nature cōpyld by mayster  
Henry Medwall chapleyn to the ryght re-  
uerent father in god Johan Morton  
somtyme Cardynall and arche  
Bysshop of Can-  
terbury.:



**C**hryst cometh in Mundus and syttyth do wñ sayth  
nothyng and wryth hym Worldly affeccyon berynge a  
gowñ and cap and a gpydyl for Man.

• **E**than cometh in Nature/Man/Reason/and In-  
nocence/and Nature syttyth do wñ and sayth.

**Nature.**

**T**halmighty god/that made eche creature  
As well in heuen/as other place erthly  
By hys wyse ordynaunce/hath purueyd me nature  
To be as mynyster/Vnder hym immediatly  
for the cheson/that I shold perpetually  
By creatures/in suche degre mayntayne  
as yt hath pleased/hys grace for theym to ordeyne

**C**ome yt longeth by naturall engendure  
thyng to contyne w/that hath spryde of lyfe  
Whiche/ne were my helpe shuld neuer endure  
But sodenly peryshe/and wax all caryse  
At wyxt thesementys/that whylom were at styf.  
I haue waged/the old repugnaunce  
and knyt theym togeder/in maner of alpaunce

**L**ike I haue ordeyned/the goddes Deane  
Ladys of the see//and euery freshe fontayn  
Whiche comenly decreceth/whan she gynneth wane  
And waxeth abundant/whan she ceceth agayne  
Of eb and flode/she ys cause certayne  
and reyneth as prynces/in euery ple and towñ  
That wryth the see/ys compassed empyon

**I**am causer/of suche impressyon  
as appereth wonderouse/to mannys syght  
As of flammes/that from the sterre regyon  
hemeth to fall/in tymes of the nyght  
Some shote sydelong/and some do wñ ryght  
Whiche causeth the ignorant/to stand in drede  
that sterres do fall/yet falleth there none in dede

**W**hat nedeth yt to speke/of thyngys here by low  
as fowles/bestys/and fysshes in there kynde  
Of trees/herbys/and stones how they grow  
In whiche/men sondry and meny vertuous fynde  
One thyng be ye sure/and thynk yt in your mynde



No maner creature / may take on hy<sup>m</sup> cure  
 Of these workys / but onely I nature  
 And playnly there ys / in erthe no maner thyng  
 That ys not partyn<sup>r</sup> / of my influence  
 I do prouyde / for euery beste lyuynge  
 Of naturall foode / alway suffycence  
 And geue theyn also / a maner of prudence  
 Wherby they may / naturallysense  
 Thyng that ys delectable / and thother exche<sup>d</sup>  
 Who taught the col / hys watche how to obserue  
 And syng of corage / wyth shyll throte on hys  
 Who taught the pelycan / her tender hart to carue  
 For she wolde suffer / her brydys to dye  
 Who taught the nyghtyngall / to recorde besylly  
 Her strange entunys / in splence of the nyght  
 Certes I nature / and none other wyght  
 But ys that I / shold clepe to memorye  
 Eche strange effecte / and euery great meruayll  
 That I haue caused / I ensure you farthfull  
 That rather tyme / than processe shuld me fayll  
 yt were your payne / and to me but trauayll  
 All suche maters / as now to brynge in place  
 Wherfore I let passe theyn / tell other tyme and space  
 But ys ye couet / now to know the effecte  
 Of thyngys naturall / by trewe conclusyon  
 Counsell with Arystotell / my phylosopher electe  
 Whiche hath left / in bokys of hys tradycon  
 How euery thyng / by heuynly constellacon  
 Is brought to effecte / and in what maner wyse  
 As far as mannys wytt / may naturallly compryse  
 Wherfore syth god / of hys great largesse  
 Hath thus enryched me / wyth doct<sup>r</sup> of hys grace  
 And made me as who seyth / a wordly goddesse  
 Of duty I can / no lesse do in thys case  
 But wyth hartly ioy / and entrece solace  
 My selfe addresse / to do hys hygh pleasures  
 And to thys same / moue all other creaturs  
 Enforce you therfore / hys creaturs eche on  
 To honour your maker / wyth humble obersance  
 Namely thow man / I speke to the alone  
 Wyfore all other / as chyef of hys creance  
 Thyneke how he / hath made the to thys semblance  
 Pluck vp thy hart / and hold thyne hed wyght



and euer more/haue heuen in thy syght

**¶** But in hys booke/cleped the transformacion  
among all other hys fables and poesyes

Maketh specyall/mensyon of thy creatyon

Howe god/wonderously gan deuise

Whan he the made/and gaue to the the myrre

Of all thy world/and feoffed the wyth all

as chyf possessor/of thyngys mortuall

**¶** In token wherof/he gaue the vpryght vsage

and gaue the in commaundement/to lyft thy eye

Up towarde heuen/only for that vsage

Howe shuldest know hym/for thy lord almyghty

all other bestys/as thyngys vnworthy

To behold therth/with grouelyng countenaunce

and be subdued/to thy obeyssaunce

**¶** But as touchyng/the cause specyally

Wherfore I haue orderned the/thys nyght to appere

It ys to put the/in knowlege and memorye

To what entent/thow art orderned to be here

I let the wyt/thou arte a passanger

That hast to do/a great and longe vpage

and through the world/most be thy passage

**¶** Adresse the selfe/now towarde thys iourney

for as now thou shalt/nolenger here abyde

Lo here Reason/to gouerne the in thy way

and sensualyte/vpon thy other syde

But reason I depute/to be thy chyf gyde

Wyth innocence/that ys thy tender norpce

Euermore to wene the/from thappetyte of vyce

**¶** O lord of lordes/my lord god immortuall

**Man.** To the be honour/and ioy euer to endure

Whose heuenly empyre shall neuer be fynall

But world wythout end/remayne stable and sure

Whom heuen and hell/and erthly creature

Wyth one assent/and all wyth one accorde

Honoureth/prayseth/and knowlegeth for thyre lord

**¶** To the myne hed/I humbly inclyne

Thankyng thy grace/that fyrst hast orderned me

To be as a sylly creature of thyne

and after that/of thy great goodwylte

Thou hast me set/in souerayne degre

and gyuen me the profettes/of euery erthly thyng

as well of frutys/as of bestys luyng



and that that ys/also most precyouse  
 thou hast me enspryed/ wryth heuenly wysdome  
 wherby I may/do workys meruaylouse  
 In euery place/where soeuer I come  
 Of eche perfeccion/thy grace hath lent me some  
 So that I know/that creature no where  
 Of whose Vertue/I am not partynner  
**I** haue as hath/eche other element  
 among other in thys world/a comen being  
 wryth herbes and trees/continually nourishment  
 that ys suffysant/to naturall spuryng  
 wryth sensuall bestys/I haue a maner of knowyng  
 wherby I shuld/in good thyng desyre  
 and flee the contrary/of myne appetyte  
**A**nd ouer all thys/thou hast gyuen me Vertue  
 surmountyng all other/in hygh perfeccion  
 That ys vnderstandyng/wherby I may auer  
 And well dyscerne/what ys to be done  
 yet for all that/haue I fre eleccion  
 Do what I wyll/be yt euyl or well  
 And am put in the hande/of myne own counsell  
**A**nd in thys poynt/I am halfe angelpke  
 vnto thy heuenly spryts/almost egall  
 albept in some parte/I be to them vnlyke  
 for they be ordeyned/to endure perpetuall  
 and I wretched body/shall haue my funerall  
 When yt pleaseth/thy grace so to prouyde  
 Man ys not ordeyned/alway here to abyde  
**W**herfore vnto thy souerayne and hygh estate  
 Most heuenly prynce/I make myne oryson  
 wryth yt hath pleased/thy noble grace algate  
 That I vnworthy/of so great renow  
 In thys world/shall haue possession  
 thou gyue me grace/my selfe to enure  
 as may me profyte/and be to thy pleasure  
 nature. **G**od hath herd thy prayer/makyns no dout  
 In all thy requestys/and craight full petryon  
 Now forth thy iournay/and loke well about  
 that thou be not/deceyued by fals prodryon  
 Let reason the gouerne/in euery condryon  
 for yf thou do not/to hys rule inclyne  
 yt wyll be to thy great myschef and ruyne  
**I** wot well sensualltyte/ys to the naturall



sensua  
lyte.

And graunted to the / in thy furst creacyon  
But not wrythstandyng / yt ought to be ouerall  
Subdued to reason / and vnder hys tynnyon  
Thou hast no wylberte / and nedest no maynmyssyon  
And yf thou abond the / to passyons sensuall  
face wele thy lberte / thou shalt wax thrall  
What lady nature / haue I none intresse  
As well as reason / or innocency  
Thanke ye thys lady / a good processe  
That they are auanced / and I let go by  
ye knowe ryght well / that I ought naturall  
Wyfore all other / to haue of hym the cure  
I am the chyef perfeccyon of hys nature  
Alas what coulde / the self body do  
Or how shoulde yt lue / ne were the helpe of me  
Certes yt could not well / crepe nor go  
At the lest wyse yt shuld / neyther fele here nor se  
But be as other / incensate bodys be  
In mouche wurs case / than wormes of the grownde  
In whiche vnneth / any tokyn of lyfe ys founde  
We semeth yt shuld / abhor hym for to here  
That I destrayned / shuld be in any wyse  
Standyng that I / was create to be hys fete  
Of all hys gurdyng / to take the enterpryse  
And now ye put me out of hys seruyce  
And haue assygned / reason to be hys guyde  
Wryth innocencye hys norysse / thus am I set a syde  
Ye clepe hym lord / of all bestys luyng  
And nothyng worthy / as far as I can se  
For yf there be in hym / no maner of felynge  
Ne no spuely quyknes / what lord ys he  
A lord made of clowt / or karued out of tre  
And fareth as an ymage / graued out of stone  
That nothyng ellys can do / but stande alone  
If ye intend / hym to contyne wylonge  
In honour / or worldly felycyte  
Be most nedys folow / hys apetyte amonge  
And conferme hym selfe / to the more parte  
I tell you men / wyl haue no dernte  
to do seruyce / or homage to a block  
all the world wyl / thynk yt but a mock  
Suffer me therfore / to haue wryth hym a come  
and to be wryth hym / as chyef counseyll



and yf he do so/ I thynk to dome

He shall repan in the world/as chref gouerner

But yf Reason/tykylt hym in the ere

Or bere hym on hand the how ys wood

He shall neuer be able/to do erthly good

natur. My frend as I/sayd to you before

a Reme shall ye haue/no man sayth nay

But reason must be/preferr'd euer more

for he can best lede hym to the way

Of Vertue and grace/wherby he may

Longest contynue/to goddys hygh pleasure

To y whych end/god hath ordernd this hys creature

Content thy selfe/now wryth Reason my frend

And medylt the no further/than thou hast to do

Thou hast brought many a man/to a wrecched end

And so thou woldst sprylt/hys creature also

But what so euer he say/take no hede therto

Wrythout that Reason/wyll also the same

for who so doth the contrary/deserueth myche blame

God and I Nature/haue set the in better case

Than any creature/vnder the firmament

Abuse not man/abuse not thy grace

Of god almyghty/that from aboue ys sent

Thou shalt be the fyrst/that shall repent

If euer thou fle/Reason and sue foly

Whan onys thou felest/the sinert of mysery

But be of confort/hardely god shall send

Both gostly ayd/and worldly helpe also

And I shall neuer/sayll vnto thy lyf end

To mynster vnto the/as me oweth to do

To pendre the world/whych thou must nedys to

Now shap the thyder/there ys no more to say

Thy lord and myne/guyde the in thy way

Then Nature goeth out.

sensu a Well lady nature leue/ye me in thys case

Shall I haue of you/none other confort

By cryst yet/wyll I not hyde my face

for as sone as we/shall to the world resort

I put no doubt/he wyll me support

He hath ben my good mayster meny a day

And he wyll not se me/thus cast away

Reason.

So fure the selfe man/Adunse the harden



Be not so passionate/ne yt so furpouse  
thou turmentyst thy selfe/and wotyst not why  
No well aduysed body/wyll demean hym thus  
Be sure thy mynde/is all erronpous

thou takyst a selfe well/and wrong oppnyon  
Whiche shalbe thyn and others confusyon

sci  
sy  
sensua **¶** Rea. Reason syr ye speke/syke a noble man  
but yett are ye take/wyth a popnt of ouer syghe  
What wold ye make me/stand as a lordan  
And not speke one word/for myne own ryght  
I se yt well/that yf your lordshyp myght  
by meanes possyble/onye byng yt about  
your selfe shuld be a ruler/and I but a cast owt

Rea. **¶** A ruler: certes and so I ought to be  
and a lord also/though ye say yt in scorne

sensua **¶** A lord: whose lord. **¶** Rea. Thy lord

sensua **¶** Nay so mote I the  
thou lrest/yt may no lenger be forborne  
thou camyst but to nyght/ (mayst hap go to morne  
for yf thou be as haute/as thou begynnest  
thou shalt auoyd/myche sonar than thou wenyest

Rea. **¶** As for myne auoydaunce/how sone so euer yt be  
It shall not skyll/as for thys intent  
But he that fyrst fleeth/or forsaketh me  
He shall haue gretest/occaspon to repent  
It shalbe to hys great trouble and turment  
that he hath lest Reason/and sudyd hys own folp  
that thereby ys fallen/to wretched penury

**¶** But now as touchyng/the honour and degre  
that I am ordeyned to/I wyll thou vnderstand  
that almyghty god/of hys grace and bountye  
Of the and suche/hath gyven me the ouer hand  
And wyll that I vse/the as a seruand  
to adurseye the and reforme the/whan thou gynst to erre  
And to clepe the homward/yf thou rayll to far

**¶** And where thou sayst/thou art so necessary  
that man wythout the/can haue no luyng  
as in that popnt/we shall not myche vary

I wote thou art necessary/to hys beynng  
But be thou sure/that ys not the very thyng  
That maketh hym/to appere so wonderouse  
and to be in hys nature so noble and precyouse

and **¶** It is shewyn that hath myght far excede



All other perfeccions/and Vertuouse naturall  
For sensualite/in very dede  
Is but a meane/Whiche causeth hym to fall  
In to moche foly/and maketh hym best fall  
So that there ys no difference/in that at the lest  
Wyt wyrt man/and an vnreasonable best

But this other/cometh of great tendraunce  
and spryтуall loue/that god oweth to mankynde  
Whom he hath create/to hys owne semblaunce  
and endued/wyth a wonderouse mynde  
Wherby he may well dyscerne and fynde  
Suffysant difference/byt wyrt good and bad  
Whiche ys to be lest/and whiche ys to be had  
Both ys ys yt/that doth hym dygnyfy  
and causeth hym to be/reputed so excellent  
and of all thys/the chiefe doer am I

Whiche from heuen in to erth by god am sent  
Only for that cause/and synall intent  
That I shuld thys hys creature/demean and gyde  
for the season that he doth in thys world abyde

Now compare thy vertues/and myne togeder  
and say whiche ys/the Worthyar of them to

sensua Whiche ys the Worthyar: forsoth I trow neyther  
we be good felowys. Re. Nay my frend not so  
Thou ought to obey me/where so euer I go

sensua Nay that shall I neuer do/for to dye  
I shal be thy felow be/loke thou neuer so hys  
And therefore hardely/be somewhat felowshys  
Leue thyn hadt conceptys/and take a metely way  
for shame of the world man/let vs not styk  
at a mater of ryght noght/and trauers here all day  
Haue me in few wordys man/and hark what I say  
Medyll thou in no poynt/that belongeth to me  
and I shall promyse the/neuer to medyll wyth the  
And standyng the nonage/of thys gentylman  
On my patell/take no care therfore  
I shall demean yt/as well as I can  
tyll he be passyd.xl.yerys and more  
and reason then/ys ye wyll vnder shore  
Oys croked old age/when lusty youth ys spent  
Than take vpon you.I hold me content  
For trust ye me/the very trouth ys thys  
thys man ys put/in hys owne lybertye



And certainly / the free choyce ys hys  
Whether he wyll be gouerned / by the or by me  
Let vs therfore put yt / to hys owne ieopardye  
and therein stande / to hys arbitrement  
To whiche of vs twayne / he had leuer assent

Rea. Nay sir not so / I know hys fraileste  
the body ys / dysposed for to fall  
Rather to the worse / than the better parte  
But yt be holpen / by power supernall

sensua Cret Reason / Whan thou hast sayd all  
yf thou se hym not / take hys owne way  
Call me cut / when thou metest me a nother day

Rea. For cartayne yet / accordyng to myne offyce  
I must aduertise / and counsell hym at the lest  
to haue vertue / and scheide all vyce  
And therein assist hym / to the uttermost  
and yf he wyll / alway be a best  
And take none hede / to my lore and doctryne

Inno. The parell and hurt / shal be hys and not myne  
Thys I shall answer / for thys man as yet  
That he ys mayden / for all suche folp  
as shold dystayne nature / or dyshonour yt  
Brought vp wth me / full well and tenderly  
Wherefore I dare / the sure par testyfy  
for innocencye / that he ys yet vrgyn  
Both for dede / and eke consent of syn  
And longer wyll not I be of hys acquaintance  
Than he ys vertuose / and of good luyng  
for fleshly lust / and worldly pleasure  
ys wth innocencye / nothyng accordyng  
But yf hys behauiour / and dayly demeanyng  
Be of suche draught / as reason wyll allow  
I shall hym fauour / and loue as I do now

sensua Well spoken and wysely / now haue ye all done?  
Or haue ye ought ellys / to thys man to say

Rea. O sir ye. C Sensualytece no more of thys dysputacyd  
Here be many fantasyes / to dyspue forth the day  
That one chatreth lyke a pye / that other lyke a iay  
And yet whan they both / haue done what they can  
Māgry the ym teeth / I shall rule the man

Man.

O blessyd lord / what maner stryfe ys thys  
At wytt my reason / and sensualyte



That one meneth Well/and that all other amysse  
In one ys sekerneſs/and in tother great frayſte  
And both they be/ſo annexed to me  
That ne deſt I muſt/Wyth one of theſe abyde  
Forde as thou thynkſt beſt/for me do proude  
For I am wonderouſly/entwyled in theſe caſe  
and almoſt brought/into perplexite  
Not wythſtandynge/thanked be thy grace  
as I dyd neuer aſſent/ne aggre  
To thyng that ſholde/be contraryſe vnto the  
Of ſynfull ded/and thought all innocent  
Subduyd to reaſon/as hys obedyent

**Rea.** Cryst graunt you therein/good contynuaunce  
to be euer/of the ſame mynde and intent  
But now wyll ye call/to your remembraunce  
for what cauſe/ye be hyder ſent  
I hold yt well done/and ryght expedyent  
that ye were brought/vnto the worldys preſence

**Man.** Ye yt ſo in goddys name/I pray you go we hene

**Rea.** And wyll ye that I/ſhall for you declare  
vnto the world/the cauſe of your comynge  
What ys your intent/and what parſon ye are

**Man.** Ye I wold be glad/that euery thyng  
be done euen/after your deuſynge

**ſenſua** Shall I than ſtand/as I were tong tyde  
**Man.**

**Rea.** Ye hardely/tyll reaſon haue ſayd  
Thy world/yt ys the mynde and alſo pleaſure  
Of lady nature/as ſhe bad vs to you tell  
that ye accept/and receyue theſe her creature  
Wyth you for a ſeaſon/here to dwell  
Deſpyng you hartely/to entreat hym well  
Wyth all the fauour/that ye can deuſe  
Wherin ye ſhall do her/great pleaſure and ſecuryce

**The Worlde.**

Thys ye be welcome/to vs hartely  
your meſſage ys/to vs ryght acceptable  
We ye aſſured/there ys nothyng erthly  
to vs ſo ioyfull/ne yet ſo delectable  
As to be acquainted/wyth parſons honorable  
Name ly ſouch/as ye ſeme to be  
Men of hygh honour/and of great dygnyte  
And as touchynge the meſſage/that ye haue brought



sc  
ly  
Gave therof/the full mynde and intent  
Assuryng you/that our hys thought  
Shalbe to do/dame nature's commaundement  
and thereunto/We Wyl be dplygent  
To do her pleasurys/in that We may  
And so We wold/ye shold to her say  
¶ And Were ye she w/nto me that thys man  
Is ordeyned to regne/here in thys empyr  
I assent Well/for our nature began  
To shape the world/she thought synally  
to ordeyne man/therin to occupy  
He to take vpon hym/as myghty gouerneur  
Maing all thynge/subdued to hys power.  
¶ Wherfore I receyue/gretly hys comyng  
Wankynde spr/hartely welcom ye be  
ye are the parson/without saynyng  
that I haue euermore/despyed to se  
Come let me kys you. O benedycyte  
ye be all naked/alas man why thus  
I make you sure/yt ys ryght peryllous.

¶ Man.

¶ I thanke you/but I nede none other besture  
Nature hath clothed me/as yet suffysantly  
Gyftles of syn/and as a mayden pure  
I Were on me/the garment of innocencye  
¶ Tre hardely Were that garment contynually  
Inno. It shall thy body/suffysantly sauegard  
from stormy wedder my lyfe to ieopard

¶ The worlde.

¶ Be pece/fayre woman ye ar not very wyse  
Care ye not/ys thys body take cold  
ye must consyder/thys ys not paradyse  
Ne yet so temporate/by a thousand fold  
Whose solyueth here/be he yong or old  
He must suffer/both feruent cold and hete  
And be out of temperaunce/oft tyme in hys dyet  
¶ Also he must nedys/do as the worlde doth  
That intendeth any whyle/here to regne  
And folow the gyse that now a day goth  
As for as hys estate/may yt mayntayne  
And who doth the contrary/I Wyl be playne  
He ys abject/and dyspyssed utterly  
and standeth euer banished/from all good company



**T**hyth god therfore/had ordernd thys body  
To dwelle here/in thys earthy region  
Of conuenience/he must hym selfe apply  
To worldly thyng/and be of suche condycyon  
As all men be/and leue eche fond opynyon  
That ys not approuable/of wysar men than he  
to take suche way/yt ys but fanyte.

**T**ake thys garment/man do as I prayd  
Be not ashamed/hardely to do yt on  
Solo/nod thys girdell/haue gird yt in the mydd  
And thys for your hed/go set yt vppon  
By the charge of me/you be a goodly on  
As euer I saw/syth y I was borne  
Worth a thousand/that ye were before.

**G**ryue me your hand/be not in fere  
Hyt down/as ye at home to occuppe thys place  
I gryue you here/auctorite and power  
Ouer all thyng/that conceived ys in the space  
Of all the erth/that rownd ys in compase  
To be as lord/of euery region  
and therof I gryue you/possyble possession.

**Man.**

**B**lessyd be thou/my lord most bounteous  
that of thy great/abundant cheryte  
Me thy wretched creature/hast honoured thus  
With naturall gyfts/and worldly dygnyte  
Now I beseeke the/for thy great pyte  
Syth thou hast set me/in so noble way  
Suffer me not here after/wretchedly to decay

**F**or certes yt ys/myne hartys desyre  
So to demayn me/in thys lyfe present  
As may be most/unto thy pleasure  
and unto nature/not dysconuenient

**T**his ys my wyll/and my chref intent  
thys wyll I obserue/thy grace to borrow  
though I therfore/suffer mouche worldly sorow

**Rea.** **F**orsoth these wordys/be gretly to alow  
yf they from meke/and lowly hart procede  
Now mankynde/syth thou hast made thys vow  
Scape the thereafter/thy lyfe to lede  
And let thy world/be consyn to thy dede  
that ys to say/do thou none other wyse

**Imo.** **T**han thou here openly/to god dost promyse



**T**ye spryng and euer/loke that ye abstayne  
Not onely from dede/But also from the assent  
So that ye commit/neyther of the myght wayn  
yf ye wyll obserue/the hygh commaundment  
for surely ye may/not be cleped innocent  
Nor gyltes of syn/as for as I can fynde  
yf onys ye assent/to folow in your mynde.

**Mundus.**

**T**hys ys an harde word/syster that ye haue spoken  
An hard worde surely/and an heuy sentence  
But thynke ye goddys/commaundement broken  
for a lycht tryfull/and mater of insolence  
Alas haue ye suche a spryed conscience  
That wyll be entyked/wyth euery mery thought  
Leue yt woman leue yt. for yt ys nought

loqui-  
ad ho.

**A**nd man as for you/ye shall not take that way  
That maner of obseruaunce/ys to hard and strayte  
ye must attempte the world/and therein assay  
Whether ye can lye/after that endrayte  
These.ii. folk/harp both on restryte  
and euer enbespeth the myght/to rebuke you of syn  
That neuer was spotted/ne found gilty therein  
take none hede of the myght/the yre wordys be but wynde  
and as for thys tyme/I commaunde the myght to sylence  
And let vs se now/how prately ye can fynde  
By sage polycy/and worldly prudence  
To mayntayne the state/in honour and reuerence  
that ye shall be in/whyle ye in the world dwell  
Speke of thys mater/and ponder yt well  
Christ me semeth necessary/to prouyde  
What maner folkys/pour saruauntys shall be  
for surely ye ar/nothyng accompanyde  
accordyng/to a man of your degre  
ye haue here wyth you.ii. parsons or.iii.  
That pleaseth you happely/in the best wyse  
yet yt appereth not so/to euery manys ges.  
What man ys thys?

**Man.**

**R**eason spryng my chyef counselour  
And thys innocency/my norce hyderto  
And sensualyte that other/by whom I haue power  
To do/as all sensate bestys do  
But reason and innocency/chyefly these two



Give the hole rule/and governe of me  
 To ~~me~~ in the y<sup>e</sup> subdued/ my sensualyte  
 sensua For cartayne spr/ reason hath done me wrong  
 More than euer he shalbe able to recompense  
 God knoweth spr I thought/ the season very long  
 Tyll we were brought/ into your presence  
 But now I pray you/ to adnull the sentence  
 That nature gaue into me/ by reasons aduise  
 to my great hurt/ and vnto preindrece  
 And spr I aske/ none amendes earthly  
 But that reason/ may haue a chek mate  
 A lytell knack/ a lytell prarty conge  
 To shew courage/ some thyng to abate  
 For hyder to/ he hath kept great estate  
 And had of me/ the ouer hande and strengar  
 But ye not dyspleased/ I wyll suffer yt no lengar

Mundus.

Thou hast had great wrong/ and that ys pyte  
 for ys thou be the parson/ that I take the fore  
 thou sholdyst be/ as honorable as he  
 sensua Lord ye say well/ but woldgod ye wold se  
 Some maner helpe/ and remedy for thys euyl  
 And let me not alway/ lyue thys lyke a dyspyll

Mundus.

Spr ye know well/ that ys so yt were  
 A man shold sodenly/ come to a straunge place  
 Wherin he ys/ but alxand and straunger  
 He must nedys be/ compelled in that case  
 to put hym selfe/ in the fauour and grace  
 Of some syngher person/ that can shew hym the way  
 Of all the behauour/ and gyse in that contray  
 So yt ys now/ that ye be hyder sent  
 thys contray as yet/ to you vnkowen  
 In myne oppynon/ yt ys expedient  
 to take some other counsell than your adue  
 Of well enured men/ suche as haue growne  
 In worldly experyence/ and haue therof the dysse  
 And can best for you/ in tyme of nede shysse

Homo.

Certes ye moue/ ryght well and prudently  
 and I am well content/ that yt so be  
 But as yet/ haue I not the polycy  
 To know whych men/ haue most abylyte.



Mun. **G**ive ye comynge/the mater vnto me

homo. **I**re sye/tyght well/I am fully content  
That all thynge be done/by your assignement

Mun. **I**tha thus I wyll/that aboue all thynge  
from hens forwarde/ye be lyke and conformable  
vnto other parsones/in all your semeanyng  
Namely to suche/as be companable  
Be they neuer so vycrouse/or abhomyable  
for every man/clepyth hym wyse  
That doth after the comen gyse.

**A**nd as for men/that shold do you seruyce  
I know dyuers persones/that be tyght honorable  
That can you serue/alway poynt deuyce  
In all the worlde/be there none so able  
Do wyse/so polypke/ne yet so profytable  
Lo here ys one of theym/that I speke fore  
and he hym selfe can tell you/where ye shall haue more

**W**orldly affeccyon ys thys manys name  
He ys well brayned/and wonderous of inuencyon  
a fore castyng man/and payne of shame  
ye shall not fynde/in any crysten regyon  
a wyser felow/in thyngeys to be done

**S**pecially of maters/that be concernyng  
Worldly pleasure/that ys for you accordyng  
**S**uffer hym therfore/neuer to departe  
But ys yt be/for maters of great substaunce  
and for sensualyte/I pray you wyth all my harte  
To accept hym to your fauour and tendraunce  
He hath ben longe/of myne acquayntaunce  
and on my farch/my harte can not but grudge  
To thynke that ye shold vse hym as a drudge

**D**o as he aduyseth you/hardely now and then  
and dyspryse not/vtterly hys counsell

**T**hynke that ye be here/a worldly man  
and must do as men/that in the world dwell  
ye ar not bounde/to lyue lyke an aungell  
Ne to be as god/alway immutable

**M**annys nature/of hym selfe ys full myserable

**I** haue tolde you now/my counsell and aduyse  
And ye haue promysed/to be ruled thereby  
Now let eche man/execute hys offyce  
and se how wyselfe/ye can theym occupy

**T**o encrease the world/and yt therto ye must apply



Now addresse you thereto/and demeane you thus  
I shalbe to you/ever good and prosperous

Man. **E**ye I thank you/of thys curtesy  
Vnderseued as yet/but be ye sure  
I shall my selfe/endeuour by sylp  
to do that may be/to your pleasure  
And for the season/that I shall her endure  
I shall therein cherpe/and to my power mayntayne  
That vnto you in any wyse do pertaine

p Wor. **E**than to bygyn with all/I wyll adurpe you  
to put thys man/from your company  
I tell you/euery man wyll despyse you  
As long as ye/be ruled by innocency  
to folow suche counsell/yt ys but foly  
for he can nerther good nerther euyl  
and therefore he ys taken/but for a dyspyll

Man. **B**y my fath/euyn as ye say  
It lyketh me not ryght well  
With innocency longe to dwell  
therefore accordyng to your counsell  
I wyll not after thys day  
With hys company my selfe affere  
As me wet as yt were a gray freere  
I suppose there ys no man here  
What soeuer he be  
That could in in hys mynde be content  
all wayes to be called an innocent  
Wherefore yt ys myne intent  
to do as ye adurpe me

p Wor. **E**ye hardely do euyn so

Inno. **F**orsoth and I hold me well content  
to departe at your commaundement  
ye shall fynde me obedyent  
What soeuer ye byd me do

**H**ere innocency goeth out.

sensua **S**o the company ys well amended  
Let hym go to the deupll of hell  
He ys but a boy I warn you well  
and shuld ye folow hys counsell  
All myghty god defend  
yf euer ye lust to play the man  
It ys tyme th at ye now bygan  
Wary to play the boy now and than



For your dysport and ioy  
It forceth not though ye do  
When ye may haue lesse thereto  
And among I wyll helpe you also  
In due tyme and place

p Wor. I praye that ye wyll in dede  
But now syr wyll ye any thyng  
Commaund me byfore my departyng

Man. Nothyng at all to my wetyng  
But our lord haue you in hys kyppynge  
And send you well to spede

p Wor. Worldly affeccyon come hyder/ye are polyptryke  
and myche better enured/in thys world than I  
I pray you dyspose for me/as ye thynk most lyke  
That I may lyue here well and honorably

p Wor. I praye syr I shall. Dout ye not hardely  
yf yt lyke you/to put me in so great trust  
And I trewe ye shall fynde me/trewe and iust

Man. I wote well I shall. Surely you be bound  
To the world/that hath gyven you so great comendacyon

p Wor. I praye syr some men had leuer than a thousand pound  
They myght be commended/of the same fassyon  
But syr let passe/all thys comendacyon  
and answere to me/I pray you frutefully  
In that I shall meue you/substancially  
I praye at few wordys/I praye you exhorte  
Hrth that ye be come to your own  
Cast your selfe to bere suche a porte  
That as ye be/ye may be knowen  
Eke yt ys necessary/for that behou  
that there be made/some maner of puruynce  
Wherby/ye may bere out your countenaunce  
I wyll yt lyke you therfore/that I suruey  
And se the extent/of all your land  
and there vpon/in all the hase puruey  
Both for you and yours/all maner of vband  
With other vtensyls/redy at your hand  
So that ye be purueyd/all tymes erely and late  
Of eche thyng/that belongeth to your estate  
Man. Your counsell ys good/do as ye thynk best  
I comyt all suche thyng/to your dyscrecyon  
I shall do my trewe/bysynes at the lest  
To bring all thyngys/to good conclusyon



Man. **I** Abode woulde affectyon/ye make no mencyon  
Who shuld a wayt/and gve attendaunce

W.aff. **I** must haue mo seruauntye/What so euer chaunce  
Of suche mater/he can you best adurseye  
He knoweth where/all suche maner parsons dwell  
as he moste apte/to do you worldly sarurseye

sensua

**T**hen he goeth out.

**L**ye on my parest syde/I shall take the enterpryse  
Of all suche maters/and loke where I fynde  
any man of pleasure/on hym set your mynde  
So wyll ye se lo/here cometh one

Man. **E**uen the last man/that was in my thought

**W**hat ys he. **S**ensua. ye shall se anon  
a well drawn man ys he/and a well taught

**T**hat wyll not gve hys hed for nought  
And therto goodly/as ye shall se in a day

py.co. **A**s well appareld/at eche poynt of hys aray

**W**ho dwelleth here/wyll no man speke  
Is there no fole nor hody peke

**N**ow by the bell yt were almys to breke

**S**ome of these knaues browes

**A** gentylman comys in at the doore

**T**hat all hys dayes hath worn gyft sperys

**A**nd none of thys knaues nor cutted hoys

**W**ydrys hym welcom to house.

**W**ote ye not how great a lord I am

**O**f how noble progeny I cam

**M**y fader a knyght my my moder callyd madame

**M**yne aunceters great estatys.

**A**nd now the lyuelod ys to me fall

**B**y both theyre dethe & naturall

**I** am spoken of more than they all

**H**ens to parys gatyng.

**H**ow say ye fyrst by myne aray

**D**oth yt please you ye or nay

**I**n the best wyse I dare well say

**B**y that ye knowe me a whyle

**A**nd one thyng I put you out of dout

**I** haue wherwith to bere yt out

**A**s well as any man here about

**W**ythyn these hundred myle.



~~There was a noble man~~  
a starryng colour of scarlet red  
I promyse you a fyne threde  
and a soft wull  
It cost me a noble at one pyche  
The scald capper sware sythpyche  
That yt cost hym euen as myche  
But there Pryde had a pull  
I loue yt well to haue syde here  
Dasse a wote byneth myne ere  
for euer more I stande in fere  
That myne nek shold take cold  
I knyt yt vp all the nyght  
and the day tyme kemb yt down nyght  
And the yt cryspeth and shyneth as bryght  
as any pryed gold  
My doublet ys on faced byfore  
A stomacher of saten and no more  
Karyn yt snow yt neuer so sore  
Me thynketh I am to hote  
Than haue I suche a short gown  
Wryth wyde sleues that hang a down  
They wold make some sad in thys towne  
a doublet and a cote  
Some me wold thynk y this were pryde  
But yt ys not so / ho ho abyde  
I haue a dagger by my syde  
yet therof spake not I  
I bought thys dagger at the marke  
A sharp point and a tarte  
He that had yt in hys hart  
were as good to dye  
I than haue I a sworde or twayn  
To bere therein my selfe yt were a payne  
They ar so heuy that I am fayne  
to puruey suche a sad  
Though I say yt a praty boy  
It ys halfe my lynes ioy  
He maketh me laugh wyth many a toy  
The vichyn ys so mad  
I begate the horion in hast  
It was done all in hast  
ye may se there was no wast



He occupie a no great place  
Sometime he serueth me at borde  
Sometime he bereth my two hand word  
Com forth thou lytell lyk to ord  
Toke in thy fathers face

But now to do that I com fore  
And of these thyngs to speke no more  
Dark spys me longeth fore

To here some newe welie  
I here say there ys a great state  
Com in to thys contray late  
And ys dysposed algate  
an housholder to be

Fathers soule spys/ye shall vnderstand  
That ys he kepe houshold in thys land  
I wyl threst in one hand

Who so euer say nay  
What so euer the man intend  
To appayre the world or to amend  
I wyl be wylth hym at that one end  
Day what hap may

I mete worldly affeccyon ere wyle  
from thys towne skant a myle  
and he hath shewed me a praty whyle  
If I may put yt in vye  
He tellys me that sensuallite  
begynnys a great rular to be  
and ys yt be so/care not for me

The mater ys cok sure

By good lord what man ys that  
fathers soule thys ys some great wat

garci⁹. Thys ys he that ye seeke

Dyde He thys brat

Thys boy ys passyng taunte  
Com behynd and folow me  
Set out the better leg I warne the

garci⁹. Eres in the best wyse trust ye me  
ale sergniour ale vouse auant

Dyde Hail⁹ to you spz. Ma. & to you also  
Whens are ye

Dyde I shall tell you or I go  
But frist wold I speke a worde & no mo  
Wylth thys saruant of yours



sensua **W**yth me spe. wolde ye speke wyth me

Dyde **Y**e for god are ye not Hensualyte

sensua **Y**es surely. **D**yde. ye such a gentylman ye seme to be

sensua **Y**our pore saruaunt at all howis

**T**hen Dyde speketh to Hensua./in/hys  
ere that all may here.

Dyde **H**yr I vnderstand that this gentylman is borne to great  
fortunes and intendeth to inhabyt therein the contray. And  
I am a gentylman y alway hath be brought vp wyth great  
estatys and affeed wyth them and ys I myght be in lyke fa-  
uour wyth this gentylman I wolde be glad therof/ & do you  
a pleasure.

sensua **W**here ys your dwellinge

Dyde **I** dwell her by

sensua **W**hat ys your name

Dyde **D**yde

sensua **D**yde?

Dyde **Y**e speker

**B**ut I am cleped worshyp comenly  
In placys where I dwell.

sensua **W**orshyp now in faryth ye saw trew  
ye be radix viciozum. Rote of all vertew.

Dyde **Y**e ye man ye wolde say so ys ye me lned.

sensua **T**urd I know you well

**H**yr ye are welcom as I may say  
I shall bryng you in securyce ys I may  
And ys one man stand not in the way.

Dyde **O**ne man what the deuyll ys he

sensua **B**y god one that loueth not the  
Nor me neyther.

Dyde **I** pray the tell me

**W**hat maner of man he ys  
And I shall gve hym a lyft as I gesse

sensua **W**ylt thou so doubtlesse.

Dyde **Y**e and that wythin a short processe  
In faryth I wyll not mysse.

sensua **S**urely I can not spy the wayes how

Dyde **L**et me alone I shall do well ynow  
Aquarynt me wyth that man and care not thou  
The mater shall spede

sensua **D**ark cosyn fyrst spede thys mater  
And ys pender man make the not good chere  
As ony man that euer cam here



**Dyde** **C**hyr I shall tell the how/whan I am in  
To thy maysters seruyce I wyll frst begyn  
To set hys hart on a mercy pryn  
And byd hym make good chere  
I wyll byd hym/thynk how he ys create  
To be a worthy potestate  
And eke that he ys predestynate  
to be a prynces pere  
And other thyngys more than thys  
I shall byng that hart of hys  
To be more howt than yt ys  
By a de wys ase  
Specrally I wyll commend hys wyrt  
That no man can amend yt  
And that he ys able therby to syt  
as a iuge in comen place  
And when I prarse hym thys wyse  
I thynke hys hart wyll begyn to ryse  
and after that vitterly despyse  
any opay counsell to here  
He shall trust all to hys own brayne  
and than wold Reason neuer so fayne  
Though he come and suche opyt wayn  
He shalbe neuer the nere

**sensua** **C**surely thys consert ys well found  
I shall byng the in seruyce for twaynty pound

**Dyde** **C**ramercy brother I thynk me mych bound  
To the for thy curtesy  
But syr abyde here on thyng  
I wyll not be knowen that yt ys my sekynng

**sensua** **C**No more wold I for .xl. shelyng  
Let me alone hardely

**sensua** **C**hyr ys yt please you here ys come a straunger  
That neuer was aquaynted wth you ere  
Somwhat shamefast and halfe in fere  
To put hym selfe in prese  
A goodly parson be ye sure  
Both of countenance and of feature  
If he were drawn in portraiture  
And a good man doubtles  
ye and a wyse man at all  
Wyll yt please you that I hym call



to speke wyth you. ¶ Ma. Byd hym com. ¶ He. I shall  
Hr. wyll ye come nere.

¶ sensua Hr. Byd hym welcome for the maner sake  
Another day I am sure he wyll crake  
And say suche a gentylman dyd hym make  
Very great chere  
Desyre hym for to dwell wyth you  
I tell you he ys a man for your pryd  
and knoweth the world well I now  
No man better than he

¶ Man. Hr. ye be welcom to thys place

¶ Dyde ¶ I thanke you syr. But I do you trespace  
to come thus homly. ¶ sensua. ye a parlous case  
God wote ye are welcom heder  
On my faryth by my wyll  
ye shall dwell wyth vs styll  
Go nere to hym and talk your fylle  
I leue you togeder

¶ He goeth forth.

¶ Man. ¶ Now syr what haue ye to say to me

¶ Dyde ¶ No great thyng syr. But I come to se  
And to know what maner man ye be  
That all men prayseth so mouche

¶ Man. ¶ Praise whom prayse they. ¶ Dyde. Marp you

¶ Man me. ¶ Dyde. ye syr I make myne auow

They gyue you a prayspng good I now

I harde neuer none suche

and surely ye be ryght wurthy

I se well now they do not ly

and therefore I dyd my hyder hy

To acquaint me wyth you

But ye may say that I am bold

¶ Man. ¶ May ye ar worth thy weyght of gold

We thenketh me to you myche behold

I pray you what ys your name

¶ Dyde ¶ My name ys wurshyp. ¶ Man. Wurshyp now surely

The world told me yt was my destyny

To come to wurshyp or I dye

¶ Dyde ¶ Truly I am the same

¶ Man. ¶ Now wurshyp I pray you me tell

your wysedom and also counsell

ye can aduertyse me passyng well

In thyngys that I haue to do



**Dyde** **I**n good fayth any thyng that I  
May do to your pleasure yt ys redy  
I am your own and pray you hartely  
That ye accept me so  
But where ye aske counsell of me  
We semeth ye saue not your honeste

**Man.** **M**yne honesty. Wherfore let se  
I pray you shew me why

**Dyde** **M**ary syr for yt ys ryght spyttyng  
That a man of your behauyng  
Shuld haue alway suspectent conyng  
Of worldly wyrt and polycy  
To guyde hym selfe euery where  
And not to be led by the ere  
And beg wyrt here and there  
Of euery iak a ppe  
ye are well complexpond be ye sure  
And nature hath done on you here cure  
As myche as vpon any creature  
that euer I saw wyth myne eye  
And by lykelyhod syr I wys  
ye haue wyrt accordyng to all thyng  
Dyffys nature hath brought a mysse  
And that ys not lykely

**Man.** **N**ow certayne thanked be heuen kyng  
I haue a ryght quyk vnderstandyng  
If ye shew me any thyng  
I can sone perceyue yt  
But I was forbyd by reason  
On myne own fantasie to con  
Dy to take any presumpcyon  
Of myne own wyrt

**Dyde** **S**ayd reasō so. Mary sy on him knane  
yt were better y hāgmā where i his graue  
than euer the lewd fole shold haue  
the gouernaunce of you

**Man.** **C**ertayn nature adurped me  
to folow reason what tyme that she  
Put me fyrst in auctoryte  
that I stand in now

**Dyde** **A**las alas man ye be mad  
I se well ye be but a very lād  
On my fayth I was very glad



Of your frist acquaintaunce  
And now I forthynk yt vterly  
That euer I knew you fy fy fy  
I had neuer certaynly  
Of suche a nother chaunce  
¶ Wylle ye draw to that felshyp  
I wold ye had .iii. strypes wylth a whyp  
Euen vpon the bare hys  
If I shuld you not greue  
Of that wold lordshyp enioy  
And playe euer wylth the old boy  
We semeth he doth but make a top  
And ye wylle me beleue

Man. ¶ Wylshyp for goddys sake greue ye not

Dyde ¶ I wylle ye at but an ydeot  
I pray you sye make not me a sot  
I am no tryfler  
I haue bene in honour here to some  
ye also w the counsell of a karle borne  
Wylfore myne I haue yt in scorne  
It ys a thyng I can not bere

Man. ¶ Whom meane ye Reason

Dyde ¶ Ye that same daw

Man. ¶ What ys he a wyse man

Dyde ¶ He ys astraw  
Wylcause he kepys you vnder aw  
ye be therein blynd

Man. ¶ And so doth he wylthout saynyng  
for hyderto I myght do nothyng  
but after hys wylle and byddnyng  
And that groged my mynde

Dyde ¶ Grouge q a yt ys no maruell hardely  
It shall greue me certaynly  
As longe as I am in your cumpany  
To se you demeaned in that wyse  
ye be now in good way  
but in farth I lyke not your aray  
It ys not the fassyon that goth now a day  
for now there ys a new gurse  
It ys now .ii. dayes a gon  
Wylth that men bygan thys fassyon  
And euery knaue had yt anon  
¶ Therefore at thys season



There ys no man that setteth thereby  
 If he loue hys owne honesty

Man. Some semeth certaynly  
 That euery man ys fresshier than I  
 And I wyl that ys no reason

Here cometh in worldly affect. & Sensua.  
 sensua Reason quod a no no  
 But syr wote ye what ye shall do  
 Hardely let vs. ii. go

To some tauerne here byspide  
 Com on I can byrnyng you there  
 and let them alone wyth all thys gete  
 There ye nothyng for the mater  
 but let them here abyde  
 And ye wyl suffer and let them alone  
 ye shall se them deurse you a new fassyon  
 That all the world shall wonder thereon

Man. By god that wyl I do goodly  
 but I pray you syrs do your dyspygence  
 for thys aray and spare none expence  
 and for a whyle I wyl go hens  
 And come agayne shortly

Here Man and Sensualyte go out.

W.aff. Brother Dyde now the weyght  
 Of all thys mater resteth in the

Dyde Thushe thou shalt se me deurse it eue strecpgh  
 It ys but iapes that gete wyth me

I haue none other study a dayes parde  
 but how I may new fasspons synde  
 and thereon I set all my labour and mynde

Byr our mayster shall haue a gown

That all the galandys in thys towne

shall on the fassyon wonder

It shall not be sowd but wyth a lace

byrt wyrt euery some a space

Of two handfull a sonder

I than a doublet of the new make

Close byfore and open on the bak

No sleue vpon hys arme

Vnder that a shyt as soft as sylk

and as whyte as any mylk

to kepe the carcass warme

I than shall hys hosen be strepped



Wryth corselettyes of fyne Veluet slippyd  
Down to the hard kne  
And fro the kne down ward  
Hys hosen shalbe freshely gard  
Wryth colours.ii. or thre  
And whan he is in suche aray  
There goth a rutter men wyll say  
a rutter huf a galand  
ye shall se these foles on hym gase  
and muse as yt were on a mase.

Now brought into the land

W.aff. **C**Da ha ha now by the maye Vyrgyn  
Thys wyll set hym on a mery pye  
Euen as yt shuld be

But euer I am in great fere  
That Reason wyll whyster hym in the ere  
and torne hys mynd clene fro thys gere  
Thys thyng seereth me

Dyde **R**eason nay nay hardely  
He ys forsaken vtterly  
Hrth I cam to hys company  
He wold not onys appere  
Neuer thelesse for a surte  
Worldly affeccyon I adurpe the  
as shortely as euer yt may be  
for spede of the mater  
To byng hym shortly in acquaintaunce  
Wryth all the company of myne affyaunce  
and let theym gyue contrynual attendaunce  
Euery man bysly  
after the propeitye of hys offyce  
Than shall ye se hym vtterly dosppe  
Reasons counsell on Warantysse  
and forsake hym vtterly

sensua **N**ay nay srys care ye nothyng  
That mater ys sped well and fyne

Dyde **I**s yt so. **S**ensua. ye by heuen kyng.  
Euen as we sat togeder at the wyne

W.aff. **T**hou shalt haue goddys blessing and myne  
but ys yt true

sensua **T**he srys by thys day

Our mayster and Reason haue made a great fray

Dyde **D**ow so



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sensua **T**hy my faryth we sat together  
at the tawern next herby  
And anon who shuld come together  
But fleyng hat and margery  
He that byrgled you parde so prately  
and bare away your shyrte the last mornynge  
Hiede of her smok whyle ye lay slepyng

Dyde **I** wote whom ye meane well I now  
but that ys nothyng to thys purpose  
Tell on thy tale for god auow

sensua **I** shall anon had I wypt my nose  
Hye whan I spyde theyn anon I rose  
and called theyn vnto me by name  
And without more taryng anon they came  
**A**nd sat down with vs/ & made nothyng straung  
as they be full curteys/ ye know yt well  
And anon our maysters colour bygan to chaunge  
Wherof yt cam/ I can not tell  
Hys chere was appalled/ euery deff  
and scant that he coulde speke to me one word  
But stert hym euen vp and rose fro the bord  
**H**e sayd he wold go/ ly down on a bed  
and prayd me for the maners sake  
That margery myght com hold hys hede  
Whiche as he told me/ bygan to ake  
And so she hath hym vndertake  
To make hym hole/ in an houre or twayne  
Whan soeuer he hath any suche soden payn  
**W**hat yt meaneth I wote neuer  
But he spketh her phrysk so well  
That I trow the deuyll of hell  
Can not theyn t wo dysseuer  
**L**o thys haue I done/ and what trow ye more  
yet can I tell you better tydnyng

**W**orldly ass. What ys that.

sensua **M**ary Reason that ye t wo spake of byfore  
Cam euen to vs as we sat so drynknyng  
And gaue our mayster an hete worth an hangyng  
Becaus that margery sat on hys kne  
Whyle that other hore sat talkyng wyth me  
**M**y mayster saw that he coulde haue no rest  
Nor neuer be ryd of thys controllnyng  
He played the man and thought yt best



and Wyth an anayr lokie/to myf semynge  
Drewe out hys sword wythout more taryng  
and smote Reason so on the hed  
That I haue great maruayll but he be now dede

W.aff. **W**arry than fyll all the cuppes at ones  
If thys be trewe

sensua **T**yes by these .x. bones  
I lye neuer a word

Dyde **T**rowyst thou yt ys no fayned stryfe  
Wyt wyrt the ym two

sensua **N**o on my lyfe.

for whan they faught I can byt wene  
and cryed kepe pece and leue debate  
But ye wold haue laughed had ye sene  
How I departed the ym/and for all that  
Sometyme I clapped Reason on the pate  
and cryed kepe the pece as fast as I coude  
Tyll I was horse I cryed so loude

W.aff. **B**ut can our master play the man now  
and face wyth thys gere

sensua **T**ye make god auow  
And be ware ye of one thyng  
Medyll ye no more wyth margery  
for by cokkys precouse body  
If our mayster may yt espy  
Or haue an vnderstandyng  
That ye vse her company  
I tell you he wyll be angry  
He ys so full of ielosy  
As euer I knew man

W.aff. **J**elosy pece man be styll  
He can therof no maner of shyll

sensua **N**o but say what ye wyll  
I am sure he can  
He ys now as famylper  
Wyth bodely lust as euer ye were  
ye and therto as great a swerter  
Whan tyme requyres  
Knew I neuer of hys age  
A man of better corage  
To do all maner of outrage  
After our despres

**W**yth Reason and he were thus at Barpaunce



He hath be full of suche dasyaunce  
And hath called to hys fauour and acquaintaunce  
your kynnesmen by and by  
Enuy wreth glotony and couetyse  
Slouth and sechery become to hys seruaunce  
And vttely he hatyth theyre contraryse  
And that he professeth openly

**W.aff.** And be these folke of hys retrunne

**sensua** Eueuerychon on I tell you trew  
But maye there names be chaunged new  
for to blynde hys eye

I tell you he ys a serefull man  
for Reason styrreth hym now and than  
And therefore do we what we can

It ys lytell I now hardely

Chy a there ys fyrst Pryde as ye wot well

The swete darlynge of the deuyll of hell

Now hys name ys chaunged ye can tell

**W.aff.** Eueuerychon on the best wyse

Wurshyp I wene ys now hys name

**sensua** Eueuerychon by the rode euen the same

And couetyse to eschue all blame

Doth hys name dysgyse

And calleth hym selfe worldly polycy

Wreth bycause he ys somwat hasty

Is called manhode. Then ys there enuy

and he ys called dysdayn

Glotony for good felshyp ys taken

and slouth hys old name hath forsaken

And as fayre a name hath he shapen

as euer man coulde ordayne

He ys called ease ryght comfortable to the bloo

Specyally for theym that luste to do no good

and amonge all other I wold ye vnderstode

That sechery ys called lust

So these be fayre names parde

Both good and honest as semeth me

as for theyre condycions what they be

ye know well

**W.aff.** Very iust

I know theyre condycions on the best wyse

ys they kepe styll theyre old gyse

**sensua** Eueuerychon that they do on warrantyse



**W.aff.** **C** But yet I haue great maruayll  
that couetyse shuld dwell in hys company

**sensua** **C** By my trowth so/and so haue I  
Out one thyng I ensue you saythfully  
And that I haue espyed well  
that hy derto our mayster setteth no store  
By hys counceill nor hys lore  
Wary whan hys hed waxeth hore  
than shalbe good season  
To folow couetyse and hys way  
ye tyme I now a nother day  
Euen so I hard our mayster say

**W.aff.** **C** By my sayth he sayd but reason  
but all the remanent be well retayned

**sensua** **I** ye be ye sure yt ys mater vnsayned  
And wote ye who ys gretely dysdayned  
With our mayster now

**Dyde** **C** Who

**sensua** **C** By god euen shamsfastnes  
whan he shall do any suche excesse  
No shame can fere hym doubteles  
I may say to you

**Dyde** **C** No than the craft were nough  
but now spris well bethought  
Hrth the mater ys hereto brought  
It ys tyme for me  
To go and make some prouysyon  
Of garmentys after the new inuencion  
As he commaunded me to be don  
thereto must I se  
for yt ys commytted to my neglygence  
And yf he come hyder whyle I am hence  
I pray the excuse myne absens

**sensua** **C** Ye and myne also

**Dyde** **C** Why wilt thou go wrth me

**sensua** **C** Wylt I q a ye parde  
It ys accordyng for Hensualyte  
Wrth Dyde for to go

**W.aff.** **C** Now y mater ys all most in good case  
After the worldys mynde and pleasure  
there ys no more/but now must I cūpace  
Wrth all my wyl and besy endeuure  
how it may be stablysshed & cōpnyed sure



For a lytell fantasie of mannes owne wyll  
May quayll this mater and utterly yt spyll  
And yf he vary agayne  
of scrpyll ymagynacion  
Drelyss by the suggestyon  
Of the forsayd reason  
One thyng I am certayne  
He wyll no lenger me support  
And that were a shrewd crank dort  
Therefore yt ys best that I resort  
to my maysters presence  
And se of what demeanour he ys  
I am gretely to blame I wys  
for that I saw hym not or this  
Syn he departed hens.

**Rea.** **C** He goeth out and Reason cometh in.  
O good lord/to whom shall I complayn  
And shew the sorowes of my mynde  
and nothyng for myne owne cause certayne  
But onely for the decay of mankynde  
Whiche now of late ys waxen so blynde  
That he hath dyspyssed and forsaken me  
And foloweth every mocyon of hys sensualyte  
What aduapled at the begynnynge  
that Nature comytted me to hys seruyce  
and charged me that byfore all thyng  
Of all hys goodynge I shuld take the enterpryse  
When he lusteth not to folow myne aduise  
But foloweth thappetyt of hys sensuall affeccyon  
As a brute best that lacketh reason  
And yet not wythstandynge  
that he doth me dysdayn  
I wyll resort to hym agayne  
And do my labour and bys payn  
To assaye yf I can hym restrye  
fro suche bestly luyng  
But fyrst wyll I stande hereby  
In secreete maner to espy  
Some token of grace in hym wherby  
I may dyscerne and fynde  
that he hath any shamfastnes  
After hys great surfet and excesse  
And yf yt be so doubtles



It shal content my mynde

Man cometh in.

I say sirs where ys wurshyp can ye tell  
In thys place I left hym last

W.ass. Hy: I warand you he ys occupped well  
In ordeynng your garmentys full fast  
He departed fro me in great hast  
for that intent/and so he despyed  
That I wold tell you whan nede requyred.  
He shewed me hys mynde or he went  
Now he had deuysed your garment  
And yf yt be made after that intent  
as he told me

Whan ye were on that bestour  
Euery man shal do your honour  
as becommeth a man of your haupour  
And so yt shuld be

Man. Tre but what wyll Reason say  
Whan he seeth me in that aray

W.ass. Reason. Mary let hym go play  
To the deuyll of hell  
he promysed me at the begynnng  
That ye wold no more be vnder hys gydng

Man. No but yet yt were accordng  
To haue therin hys counsell  
Man wythout reson ys but blynde  
And yf I shuld speke after my mynde  
I can well a dyfference fynde  
Wyrtwyrt man and a beste  
Whan he hath Reason in presence  
and duely obeyeth hys law and sentence

W.ass. Why haue ye suche a spyced conscience  
Now wythin your brest  
that chaungeth your mynde so sodenly  
I am sorow and ashamed truely  
On your behalf

Man. No force hardely  
Thou leddest me all wrong  
and therefore wyll I no more folow the

W.ass. Not worldly affeccyon:

Man. No parde  
Nor yet thy brother Sensualyte  
I haue folowed you to long



W.aff. **I**s that your mynde

Man. **I**re doubtles

And now wyl I seke shamefastnes

By whom I trust I shall redresse

All my mys ded

W.aff. **A**nd syth thou wylt nedys to shame bowe

I pray god send the shame I now

and yet I trust make god auow

Ones thou shalt haue nede

To call me agayn to thy serupce

Man. **N**ay nay on warantyse

Now syrs who can me adurpe

What ys best to do

**S**hamfastnes.

**H**yr ys ye lust to haue myne acquayntaunce

I am redy to geue you attendaunce

Happely my serupce shall you aduaunce

I am called shamfastnes

Man. **B**y your trouth are ye the same

sham. **Y**e forsoth that ys my name

Almys dedys I can attame

And help for to repressse

Whan ye haue done offence or syn

ys ye wyl mercy and grace wy

wth shamefastnes ye must bygyn

Thys way must ye take

Man. **Y**e be the man wythout faynyng

That I wylshed for/or ye cam here

and glad am I now of your comyng

Drapng you wyth hart entere

Whan I haue nede thus to com nere

sham. **S**o wyl I do ye may trust yt verysly

Whan soeuer ye call ye shall fynde me redy

**H**e goeth out

Rea. **H**yr ys yt your mynde to do as ye say

Man. **Y**e that ys yt as god me spede

Hard ye all thys mater ye or nay

Rea. **Y**es that I dyd in verp ded

Man. **O** gostly reson I haue greter nede

Of your help than euer I had byfore

Help me now & I shall neuer forsake you more

Syth I forsoke your cumpany

I haue commytted myche foly



I am ashamed certainly  
Whan I thynke thereon  
But now haue I refused utterly  
All suche maner of company  
and thys haue I done verily  
Of myne own mocyon

**Rea.** **T**han my help shal be redy as oft as ye me call  
It ys my duety so for to do  
And of your offencys wyll I make no rehersall  
But what foruer ye haue done hyderto  
To me ward let yt passe and go  
Agaynst god your offence ys great  
Of the whych mater I wyll not longe treat  
**B**ut thys confort of me ye shall haue  
yf ye be contryte as ye pretend  
God ys mercyable yf ye lust to craue  
Call for grace and sone he wyll yt send  
And be not in purpose hereafter to offend  
accustom your selfe in the wayes of vertue  
And be not in doubt grace wyll ensue

**Man.** **H**yr yt ys my mynde and intent  
Hereafter to be your true obedyent  
and neuer more to assent  
To suche foly agayn

**Rea.** **A**nd vpon that condycyon  
I take the vnto my tuncyon  
Wyth all hartys affeccyon  
Neuer to part at wayn  
And for thys seson  
Here we make an end  
Lest we shuld offend  
Thys audyence/as god defend  
It were not to be don  
ye shall vnderstand neuer the lesse  
That there ys myche more of thys processe  
Wherein we shall do our besynes  
and our true endeuure  
To shew yt vnto you after our guyse  
Whan my lord shall so deuyse  
It shal be at hys pleasure

**T**hus endeth the  
first parte.



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**T**he second part  
Reason and Man come in.

**I**n assemble the lyfe of mortall creature  
To the assyge agayn a strong towne or castell  
In whiche there ys myche besy endeuure  
Whiche warly polycy wth dyspagent traualle  
On euery syde whiche parte shall preuaile  
By sleight of ingyns or by strong power  
that other to subdue and bring into daunger  
**I**n suche case and maner of condycyon  
Is wretched man here in thys lyfe earthly  
Whyle he abydeth wthin the garryson  
Of the frayll carcas and carynouse body  
Whom to impugn laboureth incessantly  
the world/the fleshe/the enemy/these thre  
Dym to subdue and bring into captiuite  
**A**nd for to shew you what wyse they vs impugn  
first doth the world geue vs an affectyfe  
to couet ryches and worldly renown  
Wth other vanytees that be vsed in thys lyfe  
Next that our fleshe whiche euer ys in stryfe  
agayn our spyrte/doth prouoke and excyte  
vs to accomplyshe our sensuall appetyte  
**T**he last of all ys our great enemy  
Whiche euer hath vs in contynuall hatredede  
Of old enkanized malyce and enuy  
that he oweth to vs and all the kynrede  
Of all the aunceters of whom we do succede  
Nor retceseth hys malyce vnto thys day  
vs to endaunger in all that he can or may  
**A**nd certes these our sayd enemyes  
Be of theyre nature so myghty and so strong  
that hard yt wyl be for vs in any wyse  
Agayn them warre or batayll to vnderfong  
also our garrysons and fortresse to mayntayn long  
Agayn theyre ingens wthout spyrituall grace  
we can not performe in no maner case  
**W**herfore yt ys to vs ryght behouable  
Besyly to pray to god that ys immortal  
Beseeching hym as he ys mercyable  
to haue compassyon and petye on vs all  
And not to suffer vs any wyse to fall  
Into suche folly and vtter myschaunce



As shuld theym greue and do dyspleaunce  
Also yt behoueth on our parte  
To fle all suche maner of occasyon  
as may vs put in fere and Jeoparde  
Of theyre dyspleasure in any condycyon  
New sanglenes and other nyce inuencion  
We must forsake in all maner wyse  
And acquaynt vs wyth theyre contraryse  
Quia contraria contrariis curantur. &c.

I tell thys tale fyr to you  
Trustyng that yt be not done in wast  
ye remember as I suppose well I now  
Dow yt ys not fully.iii. dayes past  
Hyth ye me promysed and bound yt fast  
from that day forth to be obedyent  
Vnto my counsell and aduysement

Man. Cye fyr so I dyd in very ded  
And yet yt ys my mynde and intent  
To folow the same haue ye no drede

Rea. Cys ye do nat your selfe shall repent  
Now fare ye well for I must be absent  
As for a season/and for your confort  
Whan so euer ye call me I shall to you resore

Then he goeth out & Hensua cometh in.  
sen sua

God forbed that euer he com agayn  
Jesu how may ye thys lyfe endure  
We semeth yt shuld be to you a great payn  
Hyth ye be of good complexyon and nature  
To forbere the worldly sport and pleasure  
As ye haue done now a great seson  
and all by the folysh counsell of reson  
Where ys your lusty hart bycom  
That serued you so well thys other day  
Now so helpe me god and halysom  
I haue great maruell how ye may  
Lyue in suche mysery/and thys dare I say  
Wythout ye take some other wayes  
By my trouth yt wyll shorten your dayes  
And though I say yt that were ppte  
for by cryste and ye were gone  
Menp a good felow wold make great mone

Then he wepyth

Man. Why wepe ye so



sensua ¶ Let me alone  
It wyll none other wyse be  
and ye saw the sorowfull countenaunce  
Of my cumpany your old acquaintaunce  
that they make  
for your sake  
I dare say ye wold mone them in your mynde  
They be so lourng and so kynde  
That I am sure  
yf ye endure  
In thys peup she oppynon  
It wyll be theyre confessyon  
There ys none other remedy  
But for sorow they shall dye

Man. ¶ May god forbed they shuld so do

sensua ¶ In fayth wythout ye help therto  
There ys none other way

Man. ¶ I wyll help yt in all that I may  
And I wyll by what mene

sensua ¶ Mary call them to your cumpany

Man. ¶ By saynt Ihan I am content  
for I may say here to the  
Hyth I forsoke my lyberte  
And dyd to Reson assent  
I had neuer mercy day  
But lyued vnder awe and drede al day  
Nothyng to myne intent  
Another whyle I wyll me dysport  
and to myne old cumpany resort

sensua ¶ O than shall ye them confor  
and your selfe also  
Wote ye who wyll be very glad

Man. ¶ Who

sensua ¶ Margery

Man. ¶ Why was she sad

sensua ¶ Ye by the masse she was stark mad  
Euen for very do  
Whan she hard tell of thys chaunce  
And because she wold lyue in penaunce  
Her sorow for to quenche  
She hath entred into a celygrouse place  
At the grene fereys hereby

Man. ¶ Ye have,



Alas good lytell wenche  
Is yt an house of strait relygion  
sensua Cye as any that euer was bygon  
Hrth the world stode

Man. C Be they close nonnes as other be

sensua C Close q a nap nap parde  
That gyle were not good  
ye must be ware of that gere  
Nay all ys open that they do there  
As open as a gose eye

Man. C And cometh any man into theyre sellys

sensua Cye ye god forbede ellys  
It ys fre for euery body  
And bysyde all thys they be  
Ex omni gente cognite  
No nacyon they forsake  
Wythout yt be beggars goyng by the way  
That haue neuer a peny to pay  
for that that they do take  
C And yet can I beggars thysder lede  
Where they shal be for lumps of brede  
Datysse theyre desyre  
Suche drabbes some there be  
That requyre none other fe  
Nor yet any other hyre

Man. C Be they not wedded as other folke be

sensua C Wedded quod a no so mot I the  
They wyll not tarp therfore  
they can wed theym selfe alone  
Com hye me I han gramercy I one  
Thys wed they euer more  
And yt ys the more to comend  
for ys the woman hap to offend  
as yt ys theyre gyle  
a man may let her alone wyth sorow  
and wed a nother hore on the morow  
Euen of the same wyse

Man. C Forsoth thys ys a noble relygion  
It styrreth me to great deuocyon  
for to se that place

Canst thou byng me t hyder Well I now  
sensua Cye and yt were myd nyght I make god auow  
As dark as euer yt was



Man. **¶** But where ys bodely lust now  
 Bodyly. **¶** Then cometh in bodyly lust wyth hym W.ass.  
 Man. **¶** Mary sy: I haue sytten and sought you  
 Bodyly. **¶** I make god auow  
 ye grue shre wd attendaunce  
 Bodyly. **¶** All thys.ii.dayes I coulde not the espy  
 Man. **¶** Sy: ye know well that ye and I  
 Be neuer myche a sonder  
 Bodyly. **¶** albe yt I be from you among  
 And now me semeth thou hast tarped to long  
 Bodyly. **¶** Whyche ys to me great wonder  
 Wonder ye parde for an howr or twayn  
 forth for a passyng whyle and com agayn  
 Here ys a fore mater  
 Whan was I so long absent as now  
 and yet I was for to seke you  
 at the tother syde of the water  
 The place that ye wot of parde  
 Man. **¶** Vnderstande ye what ye mene  
 Bodyly. **¶** Tre ye  
 Man. **¶** Tell me in myne ere  
 Bodyly. **¶** Quid est latinum propter leste wys  
 What latyn now thys of the new wys  
 I herd neuer thys ere  
 Man. **¶** I trow ye begyn to waxe skamfast  
 Nay nay hardely that gere ys past  
 Meny dayes a gon  
 Bodyly. **¶** I am as wanton as euer I was  
 It were almes to hang you ellys by the masse  
 By the hard necke bon  
 But wyll ye now go wyth me to a place  
 and I shall shew you the smotherst place  
 Man. **¶** That euer ye saw wyth eyes  
 Bodyly. **¶** What thyrng ys yt pong or old  
 What euer yt be yt ys able to be sold  
 Man. **¶** It shall lyke you on the best wyse  
 For my loue let vs some nyght be there  
 at a banket or a cere supper  
 and get vs some wanton mete  
 So we may haue some deynly thyrng  
 yet wold I spende. xx. shyllynge  
 where so euer I yt get



Godp. Nay nay Wylle ye spende a copell of crownes  
and there shall no gentylman in thys .x. towne  
Be better serued than ye  
Nor be receyued more honestly  
As to an house of badwy  
For a banket or a ionkry  
For a dyshe .ii. or thre

Man. Yes that Wylle I spend Wylth all myne hart

Godp. By your leue I Wylle depart  
To make redy thys gere

Man. What now in all thys hast

Godp. I fe for god syr I am a gast  
that other knaues Wylle come theder  
byfore vs and take vp all

Man. He there to I pray the

Godp. So I shall  
Ellys sye on all to gether

Then goeth he out.

W.aff. Now Wylle margery make great mone  
bycause ye com not. Man. ye let her alone  
I am not her bond man parde

She hath dysappoynted me or now

W.aff. I pet on my fayth syr and I were as you  
at the leste I wold excuse me

Hend her word that ye in no wyse  
May thys nyght kepe her promyse  
And yf ye do not so

She Wylle so morn that as I thynk  
Of all thys nyght she Wylle slepe no Wylk  
She shalbe so full of wo

Man. I ye on myn parell take no care

Thys answere Wylle I deffar and spare  
tyll I be certayn

What answere Godp. lust shall byng  
Of thys other praty new thyng  
Whan he cometh agayne

W.aff. Wylle yt please you that I go to mergerp  
In your stede

Man. Mary that were mery  
Woldst thou serue me so

W.aff. Why syr by my trouth I mente but well

Man. I ye what thou menyst I can not tell  
But that shall thou not do



W.aff. **I**n good fapth spr ye may do wurs  
for whyle I haue any thyng in my purs  
Or any peny to spend  
I wyll make her euen suche chere  
As I wold myne own wyfe yf she were here  
Ellys god defend

Man. **Y**e I thanke the for thy good wyll  
But as for that chere kepe yt styll  
Tyll I call theron

W.aff. **B**y god spr for good loue I spake yt  
And now that I se ye wyll not take yt  
I shall let yt alone

Man. **H**ow now hast thou bene pender a way

bodyly **Y**e spr. **M**an. **E**t que nouellys

bodyly **I**e nescey  
I could not speke wyth her  
No wyth none of her folkys

Man. **N**ot wyth one

bodyly **N**o they be a slepe euerychone  
All that euer dwelt there

Man. **H**ow knowest thou wether they be a slepe or no

bodyly **M**ary she her selfe told me so  
Whan I rapped at the dore

Man. **I**t semeth she was not a slepe than

bodyly **N**o she was a bed wyth a strange man

Man. **A** myschese on her hore

**I** wold this fyre wer i her tayll I make god auow

bodyly **T**hat nedeth not she ys hote I now  
It were more almes to get

**S**ome cold water her fyre to quenche

**I** tell you yt ys as warm a wenche

**A**s any in all thys strete

**I** supposed I had angred her yll

Man. **H**ow so

bodyly **F**or I rang her a knyll

**T**hat waked her from her slepe

**I** gaue her a peke for her frendys soulys

**a** man myght haue hard the noys from poulys

**T**o the farthest ende of chepe

**S**he saw that I wold not seace but knok

**A**nd rap styll at the gate

**S**he opened a wyndow and put forth her hed

**H**ens. xl. d. q she. **I**ak noble ys a bed



Thys nyght ye come to late  
A ha standeth the wynd so cold quod I  
K.q. tytle We haue a bry  
Thys gere goeth all wyde  
And so I cam thens a great pace  
tyll I cam hyder / so thys ys the case  
Haue I not well hyde

Man. Well man there ys no more to do  
that we can not haue we must forgo  
there ys none other remedy  
Lo worldly affeccyon now mayst thou se  
Thy counsell was nought that thou gauest me

W.aff. No more yt was truly

Man. Ye I told the asmyche byfore  
It ys good to be sure euer more  
therfore now let vs go  
And resorte agayn to our old hostes  
that ys the best way now as I gesse

W.aff. Ye hardely do so

Then they thre go out & Dydde cometh in.  
Dydde Thys remember ye that thys other day

Man promysed me euen in thys stede  
that I shuld wyth hym dwell and now I here say  
The wyld worm ys com into hys hed  
So that by reason only he ys led  
It may well be so / but I am sure  
that Reason shall not alway wyth hym endure

We thynketh that Sensua. doth not hys parte  
accordyng to the duety of hys offyce  
for no body can better torn a manns hart

Nor yet a redyer mean deuyse  
to put away suche folyshe fantasysse  
than Sensualyte yf he lust to assay  
for he ys chyef ruler whan Reason ys away

Sensua Ye / a ruler wyll I be though Reason say nay

Dydde Ah Sensualyte welcom by thys day  
what tydyngs good

Sensua Ye by my say  
as good as can be told

I haue brought thys man to hys old gyse

Dydde Hast thou so

Sensua Ye on warrantyse

Dydde Now forsoth I gyue the pryke and pryse



Thou art worth the weight of gold  
Of thys tynnyng I am glad and fayne  
But shall I be welcom to hym agayne  
and all our company

sensua **T**ye hardely

as welcom as euer ye were byfore

Dyde **G**odds blessing haue thy hart therfore  
thus am I in thy det more and more

sensua **I**apes why say ye so

Dyde **F**or I speke yt after my mynde  
thou art to me alway so kynde

But where shall I our mayster fynde  
to hym wyll I go

sensua **H**e ys besp harte in your ere

wyth sytell margery ye wote where

And as sone as I had brought hym there

I cam my way a pace

and bycause he shuld not be alone

I left wyth hym worldly affeccyon

and other erand had I none

Now to thys place

but euen to shew you what ys done

and from hens I must anone

for to seke an other companyon

to gyue attendaunce

Dyde **W**ho ys that

sensua **M**ary glotony

Our mayster calleth for hym bespy

Hadyst thou hym not

Dyde **N**o certaynly

To my remembraunce

sensua **I** must go seeke hym wythout any taryng

But Dyde I warn you of one thyng

Whyle I thynk thereon

Whan my mayster and ye shall mete

In any wyse se that ye hym grete

In the old fassyon

And make as though ye know nothyng

Of hys dreters and varyable dealing

Kepe that in your brest

ye can not do hym more dyspleasure

Than therof to make reporture

Therefore let yt rest



To speke therof yt is hygh trefon

Then he goeth out.

Dyde I am glad ye warn me thus in seson  
I shalbe the better ware  
By thys warnyng I shalbe wyse  
And do as ye me aduertyse  
take therof no care

Slouth.

Wyll ye be wyse quod a/mary that ys a thynge  
By god ye had nede to haue better warnyng  
O ye byrnyng that about

Dyde What brother Slouth fro whens comyst thou  
Slouth. Streight fro my bed I make god auow  
Myne eyes be almost out  
for lak of slepe/but thys syr to you  
We thought ye called me slouth ryght now  
Dece no more of that

I haue a new name as well as ye

Dyde What ys that/ease  
Slouth. I ye parde

But yt forceth not  
Whyle our mayster ys not present  
Wytwene vs twayn I am content  
Call me what ye wyll  
But where ys our mayster

Dyde Wotest thou nere  
Slouth. No

Dyde No more do I  
Slouth. There there there

Thou shalt dwell wyth me styll  
Thou art as good a wayter as I

Dyde I shiew the better of vs both hardely  
But surely we do not well  
We shall not contynue wyth ponder man  
But we awayte better now and than  
Therefore by my counsell  
Let vs twayn go together  
To seeke our mayster

Slouth. But wotyst thou whether  
We shall now go

To fynde our mayster

Dyde I shall assay

Thou shalt se me gesse the way



And happely fynde hym to  
Now must I to the stedes as fast as I may  
to sech this gentylman but syre I say  
Can any man here tell me the way  
for I can neuer there  
ye know the way parde of old  
I pray the tell me whiche way shall I hold  
Wyll ye se this horsen cocold  
I trow he can not here  
Now yt were almes to clap the on the crown  
¶ Then cometh in man and worldly ass.

Man. Why be there any cocoldes in towne  
Dyde I durst hold thereon my gown  
that there be a score  
but for god I cry you mercy  
for by my faith I wist you not so ny  
Dad I wist yt I ensure you saythfully  
that word I wold haue forbore

Man. No force hardely yt toucheth not me  
But wurshyp tell me where haue ye be  
We thynketh long syth I you se

Dyde I sye yt ys no maruell  
Wad ye not me the last day  
To go puruey for your aray  
And ye remember well

Man. Ye for god haue ye done the same  
Dyde I by the rode ellys were I to blame  
All thynge ys redy in payn of shame  
Ellys I quyte me yll  
The tapler told me yester nyght  
that all your garmentys were redy syght  
Wyll ye go thyder and haue a syght

Man. I remary wyth a good wyll

flouth. Wyll ye that I go wyth you also

Man. I wote neuer whether ye may attend therto  
for ye do nothynge

But euen after your owne swete wyll

flouth. Why shuld I euer wayt nay that I nyll  
for to be a kynge

I may not endure contynual besynes

I was neuer used therto doubtles

I shuld not lyeue a yere

ys I folowed you I am sure



ye str: and losour out of mesure  
I saw neuer your pere  
ye wene there can nothyng be do  
But yf ye put your hand therto  
and I wps that ys no nede  
ye haue seruauntyes that be true and iu,  
yf yt wold lyke you to put theym in trust  
And quyte well they re mede  
What shuld I attend you for to please  
Whan I se well ye set by none ease  
Whych becomgeth to me

Man. ¶ Why ease what meaneth the thus to say  
I do but ete drynk slepe and play  
And none other labour parde

Slouth. ¶ Epe/ye may say what ye wyll  
But I can neuer se you ydell  
And quyte as ye shuld be  
your body laboreth as doth an hakeney  
That bareth the burdon euery day  
That prytte yt ys to se  
And your mynde on that other syde  
Is neuer I dell nor vnoccupied  
I wps yt greueth me  
To se you demeaned that wyse  
I trow ye be set all on couetyse

Man. ¶ Courtyse/ nay let be  
It ys a thyng of greter cure  
That stycketh in my mynde be thou sure

Slouth. ¶ Some thought by the rode  
I wps as myche there was som thyng  
By your lowyrng chere and your syghyng  
That was not all thyng good  
But what ys the mater I pray you hartely

Man. ¶ I wps thou canst not deuise the remedy  
Wyth all the wyt thou hast  
But thys ys the case to tell yt shortely  
A thyng was told me as I cam hereby  
How Reason puruayth fast  
And maketh very great labour and ordynance  
To dashe vs all out of countenance  
And for that purpose  
He hath gadred a great company

Slouth. ¶ What to do



Man. **I** wote nere I  
 But as I suppose  
 It ys to byrnyng me in captiuyte  
 And to take fro me my lyberte  
 So he hath oft sayd

Dyde **I** fere ye that mater

Man. **N**ay neuer a dell  
 but I care for yt wylt ye well  
 yet am I not afrayd  
 for I wyl wylthstand yt proudly  
 and syris I trust ye wyl stand therby  
 whan yt shalbe nede

Dyde **E**ye by the way that god went  
 Or he haue of you hys intent  
 fyrst shall I blede  
 The best blode that ys in thys carcass

Man. **W**ell ease go thy way hens a pace  
 and make therin good spede  
 Call my cumpany all togeder  
 and byd theym euery man com heder  
 That ys wylth me affeed

South. **M**ary syr that shalbe do  
**Then he goeth out.**

Man. **W**urshyp in the mean tyme let vs go  
 To se my new apparell

Dyde **W**ylt ye so. Now for your ladyes sake  
 Go do yt on you and I vndertake  
 It shall becom you well

Man. **W**orldly affeccyon abyde thou here  
 for I wyl go do on thys new gere  
 as wurshyp doth me counsell

**Then Man and Dyde goeth out.**

W.aff. **M**ary I shall wylth all myne hart  
 thys good fyre and I wyl not depart  
 for very cold myne handys do smart  
 It maketh me wo bygon  
 Get me a stole here may ye not se  
 Or ellys a chapyr wylt yt not be  
 thou ppls knaue I speke to the  
 How long shall I stande

**Glouyn.**

**L**et hym stand wylth a foule euyl



Wylle se so/euery dreuyll

Now adayes I warand

Must commaund as he were a kyng

Let hym stande on hys fete wyth brydnyng

W.aff. ¶ What Glotonie/I can tell the one thyng  
In fayth you wylle be shent

gloto. ¶ Why

W.aff. ¶ My mayster hath sent Sensualyte

To seke the all about the contree

Spakest thou not wyth hym

gloto. ¶ Yes parde

I know all hys intent

And thereuppon I am com here

for to a wayt/but wotest thou where

Our mayster ys now

W.aff. ¶ Nay I wote nere

I am not very certayn

But Pryde and he together begon

He sayd he wold com agayn anon

Wythin an houre or twayn

Tary thou here and go not away

I wylle go breke my fast and I may

for I ete neuer a morsell thys day

¶ Then he goeth out.

gloto. ¶ Mary that ys a thyng

Go whan thou wylt I wylle abyde

My stomak he shall not rule or gyde

That ys now fastyng

Nay of all thynges erthly I hate to fast

four tymes a day I make repast

Or thyrse as I suppose

And whan I am well fed

Than get I me to a soft bed

my body to repose

There take I a nap or twayn

Up I go streyght and to yt agayn

Though nature be not redy

yet haue I some mete of delyte

for to prouoke thappetyte

And make the stomak gredy

After all thys nedys I must

Somtyme folow the wanton lust



for hote drynkys and desyrate refeccon  
 causeth flesshely insurrecccon  
 ye know yt as well as I

Man. **I** trowth as ye say I know yt well  
 gloto. **W**hat gentylman ys thys can ye tell

bodyly **W**otryst thou neuer  
 gloto. **N**o by the bell  
 I saw hym neuer byfore

bodyly **I**s yt our mayster

gloto. **N**ay by the rood  
 It ys not he woldyst thou make me wood

Man. **Y**es I am the same

gloto. **I** cry you mercy I se yt well now  
 Byfore I knew you not I make god auow  
 In earnest nor in game

Man. **W**hy. Bycause I haue chaunged myne aray

gloto. **F**or that cause trow ye nay nay  
 That ys not the thynge  
 That can dysceyne me be ye sure  
 But I pray you who hath had you in cure  
 Syrth my last departyng

Man. **B**y my faryth a lytell season  
 I folowed the counsell and dyet of reason

gloto. **T**here went the hare away  
 Dye dyet q a/yt may be veryly  
 for ye be haltred maruelously  
 Alured I wold say  
 alas the while had ye no mete  
 As long as ye were vnder hys dyet

Man. **M**ete/yes I had som  
 Wythout yt were on fastyng dayes  
 Than he wythdre w my supper alwayes  
 and gaue me neuer a cron

gloto. **N**o force hardely why wold ye than  
 fauor hym as ye dyd lyke a mad man  
 ye loke now as yt were a gost  
 Had ye dwelt wyth hym tyll thys day  
 ye had bene pyned euen away  
 as ye be now almost  
 your fleshe ys gon euery dell  
 A vengeaunce on the morsell  
 That is left thereon

bodyly **N**ow talk of the remedy



gloto. **C** Mary now must he ete and dyn<sup>re</sup> fast  
Other remedy ys there none

bodyly **E**re but where ys the mete now let vs se

gloto. **E**re are passing hasty benedicite  
frist must ye go

Where as prouyspon therof ys made  
Let vs go thyder and yt shalbe had

Man. **B**ut what ys the maysters of the in  
A weddyd woman or a vyrgyn

gloto. **N**eyther of both I wys

bodyly **N**o / but for a mayden she goth

gloto. **E**re forgod that she doth  
But yet she ys none by I ys

bodyly **N**o / no / what than

gloto. **I** wys I not / but as men clater

They say she ys innupta mater  
Hardely an holy woman

Man. **W**ell thyder we wyll / go we hens

bodyly **H**yr ye wyll gyue me lycence  
To sport me for a season

Man. **E**res for a whyle ye well I now  
but go not out of the way I charge you  
for hyder wyll come anone  
All my cumpany as I suppose  
Kepe theym together for I purpose  
to come agayn anone  
and shew theym my mynde what I wyll do

**T**hen he goeth out

bodyly **M**ary I shall do what I can thereto  
and yet yt ys hard for me  
to kepe theym together any whyle  
But I shall tell you what  
I had leuer kepe as many flese  
Or wyld hares in an oppyn lese  
as vnder take that

**W**rath.

**W**here be these knaues that make thys aray

bodyly **M**ary they be gon that other way  
tell me whome ye meane

Wrath. **I** trow thou scornyst

bodyly **M**ay certaynly  
Now so be yt ys I shuld not ly  
at the frist blushe I ensure you faythfully



I had forgot you cleue  
 Wycause ye be thus defensyble arays  
 What meaneth that are ye affrayd  
 Who hath you greued

Wrath. **E** May I fere no man that bereth an hed  
 yet had I leuer that I were dede  
 than that shuld be preued

Godysp **E** By my faryth ye are wont to be as bold  
 as yt were a lyon of cotteswold  
 but now to my questyon  
 What meaneth all thys defensyble aray

Wrath. **E** Mary slouth warned vs t wo thys same day  
 Euen syth yt was none  
 that our mayster and Reason shuld make a fray  
 and therfore he had vs wpythout delay  
 to a wart on our capytayn

Godysp **E** Now I know the mater ryght well  
 But what shall com therof I can not tell  
 It passeth my brayn  
 Our mayster wylled that we twayn  
 Shuld tary here tyll he com agayn

enup. **E** What wylt thou do than

Godysp **E** Who I may care not for me  
 I wyl not com where strokys be  
 I am not so mad a man  
 And I wys yt ys not for any fere  
 But yt ys a thyng that I can well forbere  
 And wyl as long as I can  
 Of lust and pleasure ys all my mynde  
 It longeth to me of properte and kynde  
 And ys I shuld to the warre  
 And ly in myne harnes as other men do  
 Wyth hunger and thurst a day or two  
 It shuld me vtterly marre

enup. **E** It were a great losse ys thou were mard  
 Now fy on the stark horsen coward  
 Wy cokkys precrouse blode  
 It were no syn to sle suche a knaue  
 Hast not thou wagys as other men haue  
 And few of vs so good  
 yet wylt thou fayll vs at thys nede  
 Now who so euer shall quyte my mede  
 I wyl no further go



tyll I haue slayn hym myne own hand  
Though I shuld forswere the land  
Euen whan I haue do

Then goeth out bodyly lust  
Dold hym in spys I pou requyre  
alas wold ye not at my desyre  
Do so myche for me  
I wroght wold haue done me more good  
to haue sene the knaues hart blode  
than xx. shyllyngs of fee

Man. What how spys what meaneth thys gere  
Wylle ye see eche other here  
No more of thys worke

enuy. Wyth the hart of god and he had abyden  
A lytell whyle he shuld neuer haue spoken  
Wyth preste nor wyth clarke

Man. Who was that

enuy. Your own mynyon  
Bodyly lust

Man. Why what hath he done

enuy. Euen lyke a surden  
He sayth that ye haue gyuen hym lycence  
to abyde at home and kepe resydence  
Whyle we bere the burden  
And serue you now at your nede

Man. He prayde me so in very dede  
Wythin these .ii. dayes  
He sayd he wold serue me wyth a good wylle  
But of the warres he could no shylle  
Nor knew therof the wayes  
Now be yt I gaue hym therof none answer

enuy. No but I am sure he wylle not com there  
And now may ye see  
That no man ys so myche to blame  
As your selfe

Man. I

enuy. Tre by saynt Jame  
No man but euen ye  
For I am well assured of one thyng  
ye gaue hym better clothynge  
Than ye dyd me  
And better wagys and fees also  
And though I sayd but lytell thereto



But suffered euer more  
 yet I dysdaynd yt euer in my mynde  
 And though that ye were to me vnkynde  
 To set so great store  
 Wyfliche a knaue as he was  
 I wold I had hym here by the masse  
 And no man but we twayn

Man. I Wyf my trowth thys ys euer thy gysse  
 Loke by whom I set any pryse  
 Wym thou wylt most dysdayn

Wrath. I Wyf cryst he can do none other wyse  
 But now syt ys there any scrupce  
 That ye wylt commaunde me

Man. I ye mary ys there / but my cumpany  
 Dresseth theym forward passyng slowly  
 I trow yt wylt not be  
 Manhede thou art good I now for one

Wrath. I ye by cryst and they can euer chone  
 I wylt not gretly fere

enup. I Wyf my trowth bycause he sayth so  
 I shall tell you what I saw hym do  
 I was present there  
 Hyt yt happnyed in Westmynster hall  
 Euen byfore the Iuges all  
 Hys handys were bound fast  
 And neuer vpon hym that euer god made  
 Dager sword nor knyfe he had  
 And yet at the last  
 He draue .xii. men into a corner  
 and an howr after durst they not appere  
 How say ye hereto  
 and hys handys had bene at lyberte  
 He wold haue put theym in great Jeoparde  
 It ys to suppose so

Man. I Mary there he gysse hym well  
 but where be myne other folk can ye tell  
 I The cometh i Glotony wyth a chese & a botell.

Wrath. I Mary here cometh one  
 Good felyshyp me semeth yt shuld be

gloto. I Hys god speke you

Man. I What tydnyngs wyth the

gloto. I I shall tell you anone



Mary say I am com here  
for to attende vppon you  
we shall a warfare yt ys told me

Man. Tye where ys thy harnes  
gloto. T Mary here may ye se  
Here ys Harnes I now.

Wrath. T Why hast thou none other harnes but thys  
gloto. T What the deuyll harnes shuld I mys

Wythout yt be a botell  
Another botell I wyll go puruey  
Lest that drynk be scarce in the way  
Or happely none to sell

Wrath. T Thou must haue other harnes than thys may  
gloto. T Other harnes nay I shew me than

I can no skyll theron  
Why trowest thou that I wyll fyght

enuy. Tye so I trow

gloto. T Nay by god almyght  
Therof wyll I none  
I was neuer wont to that gere  
But I may serue to be a vyteleer  
And therof shall ye haue store  
So that I may stand out of daunger  
Of gon shot/But I wyll com no nere  
I warn you that byfore

enuy. T Now suche a knaue I betake to the deuyll  
Thys ys euen suche a nother dreuyll  
As was here whyle ere  
They be .ii. knaues annoynted  
I fere me say ye shalbe dysappoynted  
I spke not thys gere

gloto. T O I had for gotten I make god auow  
Say my felow ease commaundeth me to you

Man. T Commaundeth the to me

gloto. T you to me

Man. T We to the

gloto. T Commaundeth you to hym I wold haue sayd

Man. T Why cometh he not hyder

gloto. T By god for he ys afrayd

And lyeth spk in hys bed

De toke such a consert whan he hard of thys gere  
That for thought and very fere



Wrath. And he were hanged yt were no rek  
I pray god the deuyll breke hys nek  
and all suche as he ys

Man. Well I t'is suffer for a whyle  
I wyll go walke hens halfe a myle  
and for all thys  
Happely all thys gere shall not nede  
Now he yt that I dout and drede  
The wurst as wyse men do  
Manhode com thy selfe wyth me

gloto. And I to s'p'

Man. Tre parde  
Woldyst thou be prayd thereto

Then goeth out Man Gloton / & Wrath.

enup. Now he that wold haue warre or styrre  
I pray god send hym a shrewd wyse  
and than shall he haue I now  
But I shall tell you s'p' as for me  
I am none of theym so mot I the  
I may say to you  
I wyll no suche rekennynge abyde  
Gods body here cometh Pryde  
as crank as a pecok  
As sone as he and I mete  
Wythout he stand ryght vppon hys fete  
He shall bere me a proude mok

Pryde What tydynge s'p' can any man tell

enup. Tre mary that can I do as well  
as any that was in feld  
ye haue taried so long about your gay gere  
That the feld ys done or ye come there

Pryde Done mary god sheld

enup. It ys done wythout fayll  
But whiche of theym hath wone the batayll  
I cannot tell pou certayn

Pryde Thou were not there yt semeth therby

enup. Not I there y' a yes hardely / & that to my grete  
But as sone as y' batellys iorned togeder (p'p'n)  
I cam my way streyght heder / for to tell tydynge

Pryde What the deuyll tydynge canst thou tell

enup. Mary I can shew you nothyng of the batell  
but of many other tydynge  
ye are out of concept I tell you for euer



Because ye shyd not pou endeuoure  
 At thys great vryage  
 In so myche that ye are lyke to lees  
 Both y<sup>e</sup> ur offyce and all your fees  
 And put cleue out of waies  
 Dyde enuy. That ys not true as I suppose  
 Hyr and yt be not take my nose  
 And my hed also  
 your offyce was gruen or I cam thens  
 Dyde Mary that was a very short sentence  
 and I not called therto  
 Now enuy what counsell wylt thou gyue me  
 enuy. By my trouth Dyde thou mayst byleue me  
 If I were in thy case  
 I wold wrthdrawe me for a season  
 though yt be nother felony nor treason  
 Nor yet wylfull trespase  
 yet the same ys wurst of all  
 for euey knaue wyl the call  
 a coward to thy face  
 Dyde I am Unhappy I se yt well  
 for thexpense of myne apparell  
 to wards this vryage  
 What in horses and other arap  
 hath compelled me for to lay  
 all my land to mortgage  
 and now whan I haue all do  
 To lesse myne offyce and fees also  
 for my true intent  
 I may say that all my cost  
 and all my tyme ys euyllost  
 In serupce that I haue spent  
 Well what so euer by tyde me  
 for a season I wyl hyde me  
 after thy counsell  
 and syth yt wyl no better be  
 fare well I take my leue of the  
 enuy. Now gentyl Dyde fare well  
 Alas that I had no good felow here  
 to bere me cumpany and laugh at thys gere  
 thys game was well founde  
 sensua Cres and ye lust to play the knaue  
 Some maner of cumpany ye myght haue



Dere Wythin thys grounde

enuy. **C**ome I can thynke yong or old  
And ellys yt were a small household  
as any myght be found

sensua **I**t ys not small the company sheweth well  
But me thought thou were about to tell  
Of some mery Jeste

Or som mery game at my cummyng

enuy. **T**he hardely yt ys a game for a kyng  
Whan he lusteth best

To laugh for hys dysporte and solace

Syr I shall tell the thys ys the case

Ryght now as I stode

In thys place and neuer a man wyth me

In cam Pryde garnysched as yt had be

One of the ryall blode

It greued me to se hym so well be sene

But I haue abated hys corage clene

for a lytell season

By the rode I haue gyuen hym a chek mate

for I bare hym an hand that he cam to late

And that the feld was done

and how hys offyce was gyuen away

Bycause he sayled our mayster that day

I made hym to byleue so

And whan I had told hym all thys tale

anone he began to wax all pale

full of care and wo

and now he hydeth hym selfe for shame

I gaue hym myne aduyse to the same

and so he ys gon

sensua **N**ow on my fayth thys was madly do  
but in fayth what moueth the therto

enuy. **M**ary cause had I none  
but only that yt ys my gypse  
Whan I se an other man aryse  
Or fare better than I

Than must I chase and fret for yre

and ymagyn wyth all my desyre

To dysstroy hym vtterly

But now in earnest Sensualyte

tell me whan thys fray shalbe

I pray y hartely. **S**ensua. What agaynst Bea.



enup. **E**re the same

sensua **T**ushe they be agreed in payn of shame  
and good cumpany they kepe

enup. **A**greed q a in the mare name  
Marry fyr that were a game  
to make some of vs wepe

sensua **W**epe or laugh man so yt ys  
and who trow ye ys the causer of thys

enup. **W**ho

sensua **A**ge the deuyll hym quell

enup. **W**hy ys age now com in place

sensua **E**re and that may ye spy by hys face  
and ye mark yt well

Hys stomak faynteth every day

Hys bak croketh hys hed waxeth gray

Hys nose droppeth among

Hys lust ys gone and all hys spykynge

I se yt well by every thyng

He may not lye long

and all maketh age as I sayd byfore

He ys the deat and what trow ye more  
thys age hath done

enup. **W**hat

sensua **W**y my fayth he hath brought in Reason

In suche wyse that at no season

Nothyng can be brought

Wyt Reason must be called therto

I fere me he wyll vs all vndo

Wythyn few dayes

As sone as Glotony had espyde

all thys gere he wold not abyde

but went even hys wayes

Our mayster prayed hym to tary a season

Nay nay quod he now haue I done

I may no longer tary

for age and I may not togeder dwell

and streyght way he departed fayre and well

Wodpely lust stode by

and saw that Glotony wold nedys be gon

Haue wyth the Glotony quod he anon

for I must go wyth the

So that .ii. be gon togeder

Can there none of theym both heder



enuy. Neuer a one that I se  
sensua Weill they be gon some other way  
to get a new master as sone as they may  
They can not be onpurueyd  
and as sone as they.ii. were gon  
Our master sent for couetyse anon  
and hartely hym prayd  
to a wait on hym well for a yere or two  
and he hath promysed hym so to do  
as for a yere or two  
but Reason may not therof know

enuy. Reason quod a/no so I trow  
He will that dysdayn  
but where hath couetyse ben many a day

sensua He dwelled wryth a prest as I herd say  
for he soueth well  
Men of the chyrche/and they hym also  
and lawyars eke/whan they may tend therto  
will folow hys counsell

enuy. So men say the. e as I dwell  
but Sensualyte canst thou tell  
Now in thys case  
what were best for vs to do

sensua Mary I hold yt best that we go  
Dere by to som place  
and semble togeder all our cumpany  
to here there myndys by and by  
and euery manny's opynyon  
what shalbe best for to do

enuy. By my trouth and be yt so  
I hold yt well don

¶ They go forth Reason & Man com in.

Rea. Hyr I haue oft tymes you aduysed  
to lye vertuously/and shew you the way  
and that not wrythstandyng/ye haue me dysprysed  
And folowed Sensualyte/many a day  
Wyll ye so contynue/ye or nay  
If euer ye purpose your selfe to amend  
It ys tyme/for your lyfe draweth fast to thend

Man. I can not contynue/though I wold  
for age hath wayned me clene therfro  
and yet Reason/whan ye me told  
Of thys gere many day ago



I thought I tell/I shuld haue com herto  
But had of your wordes/great storn and dysdayn  
Wold god that my lyfe were to begyn agayn

Rea. I speke not therof/that may not be  
a thyng don/can not be called agayn  
but the thyng/that most fereth me  
On your behalve/I tell you playn  
Is that ye wold/in no wyse abstayn  
from synfull lustys/as I wylled you to do  
I yll now that age compelleth you therto

Man. That is full trew/without faynyng  
as long as myne appetyte shal endure  
I folowed my lustys/in euery thyng  
Wherhe now by the course and law of nature  
And not of my polycy/or good endeuoure  
Is taken from me/for euer more  
And so can I deserue/no mede therfore  
But not wythstandyng thys myne abusyon  
I trust that by the help of your good aduyse  
I may be made the chyld of saluacyon

Rea. Yes and ye wyl shew warrantyse  
So that ye vtterly forsake and dyspyse  
All your old seruauntyes in wyl and dede  
and do by my counsell

Man. Yes haue ye no drede

Rea. I than my soule for yours/I say to wed  
ye shall do well/haue ye no mistrust  
And frist to begyn wyth/I you forbed  
All maner of dyspeyre/and secundly ye must  
Put to your mynd/and good wyl  
To be recured/of your great excesse  
for without your helpe/yt can not be doubtles  
As in thys example/ys so be the patient  
Of hym selfe/be wyllyng to haue any remedy  
It ys a great furtheraunce to that intent  
So that to the preceptys of physyk he apply  
And who so doth the contrary/no maruayll truely  
Though he myshary/what shuld I bring  
Any mo examples for so playn a thyng

Man. It shalbe no nede as in thys case  
I know ryght well/what ye meane therby  
And that wyl I folow by godds grace

Rea. I than as I told you/yt shalbe no maystry



your selfe to comfort/and to haue good remedy  
agaynst the great surfeture/that thou hast don  
By whiche thou hast deserued endles dampnacyon

**C**out do as I shall tell the/and haue no drede  
end for to gyue the medycyns/most accordyng  
ayens thy sores/do by my rede

Loke what dyscase/ys hote and breunnyng  
take euer suche a medycyn as ys cold in werkyng

So that the contrary in all maner of wyse  
Must be se hys contrary as physyk doth deuyse

**R**ight so who so lusteth fro syn to aryse  
where he hath in pryde/done any offence

He can be helpen therof none other wyse  
But onely by mekenes/that ys the recompence  
agayn Wreth and Enuy/take charyte and pacyence  
take almes dede/agayn the syn of couetyse

**A**nd to repressse glotyny/acquaynt y with abstynēce

Agayn foull lust of body/take chastyte & cōtynēce

Whiche syn groweth by Slouth and by Idelnes  
and that must be eschewed by meane of good besynes

Both ys be preparatyfys most souerayn

Agaynst thy sores whiche be mortall

Onles that thys medycyns to theym be larn

Whan thou hast receyued these preparatyfys all

I wyll com agayn yf thou me call

And order the further after my mynde

**Man.** **E**ye But where shall I these preparatyfys fynde

**Rea.** **T**hou shalt theym fynde wythin thy own brest

Of the yt must com/yt must be thy dede

for voluntary sacrafyce pleaseth god best

Thou canst not therof haue help or mede

But yf thys gere of thy own hart procede

**Man.** **W**ell I shall endeuoure me to the vitermost

And tyll I haue found theym I shall neuer rest

But how shall I know theym that wote I nere

I pray you shew me that byfore your departyng

**Rea.** **I**t nedeth not therof to enquire

Thou shalt know theym at the fyrst metyng

Of .ii. contraries there ys but one lernyng

That ys to say whan thou knowyst well that on

The other contrary ys known anon

**T**hen he goeth out & Mekenes cometh in.

**W**ho so woteth by storyes/of scripture well



Shall frnde/that for Pryde and pre'sumpcion  
Lurper whiche somtyme was a gl'oriousse angel  
for that hys offence/had suche correccion

That both he/and eke many a lecyon

Of hys order/Was cast down to hell

By ryght full Justyce/perpetually there to dwell

Remember also Adam/the frst of our lyne

What payn he sufferd/for Pryde and dysobedience

Causeth he not/a great decay and ruyne

In all the progeny/for the same offence

In suche wyse that he/and all that were borne sence

Be utterly dyssheryted/and put fro paradyse

and so we be made/thrall vnto syn and vyce

And lost shuld we be/all of very iustyce

Ne had be that god/of hys mercysfull goodnes

Dyd vs sone after/wyth hys own blode maynpryce

and vs redeemed/fro paynes endles

So that we do not/dysobay or transgresse

Dys hygh commaundementys/but demean vs well

after hys lawes/whyle we here dwell

And for as myche as manys nature

Is frail/and lyghtly to syn wyll assent

Erther of purpose/or onwetyng peradventure

There the sayd good lord hath hym sent

agayn euery syn/a remedy conuenient

for he ne wold/haue one soule to be sore

Whom he hath dere bought/as I sayd byfore

The rote of all syn/ys Pryde ye know well

Whiche ys myne aduersary/in all that he may

Where I am in place/he may not dwell

Dys malycouse power/I can ryght well alay

And teche euery creature/the remedy and way

How to subdue Pryde/whiche no man can do

Wthout that I mekenesse/must help therto

Man. I Than your help and counsell ys necessary to me

meke. Wherof I pray you/wyth all hartys affeccyon

meke. All redy at hand/who so euer yt be

meke. That lusteth to haue me for hys consolacyon

Man. I My selfe haue synned/in Pryde & elacyon

meke. Shew me your counsell/what way shall I take

meke. A de w satysfaccyon/for that syn to make

meke. I Thou must byfore/all thyng set bytelle pryse

meke. By the ym own selfe/and take no hede



Whether the people / so the p[re]s[ent] or d[is]p[re]s[ent]  
W[hen] thou meke in hart / in word and in dede  
thynk not that thou / woldst any man ouer se  
Be soft and lowly / in speche to euery wyght  
And vse none aray / that staryng ys to syght  
Fo in these thre thyngs / onely standeth Pryde  
If thou commyt / the lest of the[m] thre

Man. Fro thys day forth / I wyll set the[m] a syde  
and folow the counsell / that ye gyue me

hump. Do so / and I wyll clerely dyscharge the  
as for the syn of Pryde / my soule for thyn  
thou shalt be all hole / yf thou take thys medycyn

I than he goeth out.

Man. Yes I shall take yt thynk not the contrary  
Now am I well eased yet haue I not done all

charp. There ys no lrynng physycon ne potecary  
that can deuyse / so souerayn cordy all  
agayn the soze of enuy / whych ys mortall  
No man lrynng / I rou ensure  
W[ith]out my helpe / may vnder take that cure  
for I am called charyte / the salue for that sekene  
Whom thapostyll Paule / commaundyth syn gulerly  
Indyuers hys eppstellys. I can well represe  
the rancour of Enuy / and gyue therein good remedy

Man. I than ys your counsell / to me full necessary  
If ye be charyte / ye are bound doubtles  
to haue som compassyon / of your neryghbours dysstres

charp. Why hast thou ben enuyouse byfore thys day

Man. As god knoweth well / and that I re w sore

Charp. Well thys must be the remedy / mark what I say

There ys no syn / that dyspleaseth god more  
Than doth thys syn of Enuy / and therfore  
If so be thou wylt / thy own soule sauegard  
Be thou neuer enuyouse / fro thys day forward

Also that syn / ys to man on naturall

More than any other / in myne opynion

for all other synnes / mark therein well

A man commyttyth / w[ith] som delectacyon

Eu. Enuy ys euer / full of payn and passyon

And tormenteth hym selue / w[ith] sorowfull sadnes

Whan he seeth hys neryghbours prosperite or gladnes

He ys neuer glad / nor taketh any solace

but at hys neryghbours / harme / losse / or heuyness



He speketh somtyme farre/byfore a mannyes face  
And yet within hys hart/he ys full of doublenes  
For brynnd hys bak/he wylt neuer cease  
With schanderouse wordys/to appayre his good name  
and many a fals ly/doth he report for the same  
Ye know syr whether/yt be thus or no  
But now a nother whyle/to speke of remedy  
If ye wyl be holpen/syr thus must ye do  
First byfore all thyngys/love god entyrelly  
Next that thy neryghbour/love as thyne own body  
That ye to say/thou must the to hym behaue  
and do hym such curtesy/as thou woldyst of hym haue  
Obserue these two thyngys/and do no more  
In recompense/of thy great trespase  
Touchyng the syn of envyy/reherseed byfore

Man. **T**o obserue theym well/god send me hys grace  
and I thank you for your confort/a counsell in thys case  
I shall me selfe endeuoure/accordyng thereto

charp. **G**od send the hys grace well so to do

**T**hen he goeth out.

pacien **T**he remedy of wreth/and ontraypouse pry  
Must nedys com of me/and none other wyse  
for I am called pacience/whychen quencheth the fyre  
And flammys of wreth/yt ys also my gyse  
By soft word/a sufferance/to overcom myn enemyes

Man. **N**ow welcom pacience/for whom I haue sought  
Help me with your counsell/for his loue y all brought

pacien **T**hys ys my counsell/ys thou wylt wythstand  
thy gostly enemy/and thys temptacon  
thou must haue me pacience/euer redy at hand  
Specyally in sufferynge/of worldly trybulacon  
Remember how cryst dyd/in tyme of hys passyon  
there mayst thou lern/how to be pacient  
In any aduersyte/that to the shalbe sent  
**A**nd yet there may be/no comparyson  
Wryt yxt the leste/part of hys payn  
And the gretest wrong/that to the can be don  
Wherfore thou wreth/shuldyst not dysdayne  
But gladly thou shuldyst/thy selfe refrayne  
from yrefull passyons/as I sayd byfore  
Forth thou shalt haue a reward/in heuen therfore

Man. **I**t ys my full mynde and intent  
Hereafter to do/as ye me aduertysse



pacpen **E** Now he that all goodnes/to vs hath sent  
Send you his grace to demean you that wyse

**E** Then he goeth out.

Man. **I** shall do my good wyll/on warantysse  
Now who can me best directe  
My slouthfull Idelnes for to correct

**E** Good occupacyon.

**E** The syn of Slouth/I can well repressse  
And I shall teche the/to do the same

Man. **E** How shuld I do yt

occupa **E** By mean of me good besynes  
and so am I called/for that ys my name  
Idelnes ys neuer/without syn or blame  
by mean therof/myche syn cometh in  
for yt ys the very moder/and maysters of syn

**E** In esche wyng therof/thou must euer vse  
Som good occupacyon/in body or mynde  
and yf thou do thys/my counsell refuse  
So that the deupst/in Idelnes the synde  
than accordyng/to his propretye and kynde  
He laboureth fast/by mean of temptacyon  
to byrnyng thy soule/unto endles dampnacyon

**E** Therefore do som good occupacyon alway  
as well wyth the body/as wyth mynde inward  
And yf thou do not/thys counsell obey  
thou shalt thyn own soule greetely eniohard  
On that other syde/thou mayst be no coward  
Nor ferefull of penaunce/or other good dede  
Hrth thou shalt be sure/to haue heuen to thy mede

Man. **E** Thys counsell ys good/I thank you therefore  
My mynde ys well eased/therein be ye sure

occupa **E** Is there any thyng/elsys that I can do more

Man. **E** None to my knowlege/for ye haue done your cure

occupa **E** He that ye wysely now put in vre

**E** Then he goeth out.

lybera: **E** Yes hardely thynk not the contrary.

lyte. **E** yth yt ys to me so behouefull and necessary

**E** I am lyberalyte/the vertu Cardynall  
By whom ys confounded/the syn of auaryce  
Who so euer lusteth/on me to call  
I am redy therein/to gyue myne aduyse

Man. **E** Hy: I pray you/in my most hartly wyse  
to reforme/and order my mynde



lybica ¶ First thou must be sorow/for the abusing  
of temporall goodys/before thys day  
Next that I wyl adurſe the/before all thyng  
If thou haſt wrongfully/taken away  
Any mannyſ good/go wythout delay  
and therof to thy power/make due reſtytucyon  
for erſt ſhalt thou haue/of thy ſyn no remyſſyon

Man. ¶ Why trowe ye that I ſhall not be excuſed  
By almes dede/of that offense

lybica ¶ No no hardely/thou art gretely abused  
Thynk not therby/to make recompence  
for by that almes thou doſt great offense  
and dyſpleaſure to god

Man. ¶ Why ſay ye ſo  
Erſt hym ſelfe bad that we ſhuld almes do

lybica ¶ Ye for god/but that ſhuld be do  
Of well gotten goodys/ellyſſe ye ſe nought

Man. ¶ Well I aſſent gladly therto  
as in that one poynt/I am fully taught  
Wyt ye nothyng worth/tyll ye be dere bought  
But what other amendys/ſhall I make  
The foull ſyn of auaryce/to ſwage & aſlake

lybica ¶ Thou muſt haue compaſſyon and alſo be lybicaſſ  
Vnto thy neyghbour at hys neceſſyte

Man. ¶ I trow ye wold haue me to geue away all  
and leue my ſelfe nought

lybica ¶ I mene not ſo parde  
for that ye waſt/and ſynfull prodigalyte  
take the myd way/byt wyth the myd way  
And ſee the extremytes/how ſo euer thou do  
¶ Thou muſt thy worldly goodys ſo employ  
In charitable dedys/wyth due compaſſyon  
that thou mayſt be euerlaſtyng ioy  
for the good intent/of that diſtribucion  
thou mayſt alſo geue them/to thy dampnacyon  
as whan thou doſt yt/to wyth therby  
Prayſyng of the people/or ſom other vayne glory  
¶ For truſt ye well thou muſt geue a rekenyng  
Of all the goodys/that com to thy vſe  
the hygh Juge/that knoweth all thyng  
to whom thou ſhalt thy ſelfe accuſe  
Wythout any appele/or farned excuſe



fro whom thou canst not hyde thy face  
 There shalt thou openly shew and confesse  
 How that goodys cam / to thy possession  
 What mynde and pleasure / thou hadst in rychees  
 And why thou hadst / therein suche affeccyon  
 What almes dede / or other good dyscrecyon  
 Or how thou hast / these goodys wasted or abused  
 there yt shalbe knowen / yt can not be refused

Then as I sayd to the byfore  
 thou shalt receyue / after thy deservyng  
 Joy or ellys payn / to endure euer more

Man. Truly this ys a ferefull thyng  
 lybera Therefore remember well my sayeng  
 Mark well my counsell / and folow the same

Man. If I dyd not I were gretely to blame  
 Then lybera lyte goeth out / and abstynence  
 and chastyte com in.

abstine The remedy of Glotony / I can well teche  
 I am ordeyned / onely for that intent

Man. And I haue great nede / of suche a leche  
 your counsell to me / ys ryght expedient

abstine Hyr ys ye lust / to be my pacient  
 And take suche remedy / as I shall deuyse  
 I shall make you hole / of that syn on warrantyse

Man. What ys your name

abstine My name ys Abstynence  
 And this other / that cometh wryth me  
 Is called Chastyte / or ellys contynence  
 It ys hys gyfte / and hys properte  
 to folow me / where so euer I be  
 Lyke wyse as lycher / that dedely soire  
 foloweth the bestly syn / of Glotony euer more

Quia delitie sunt instrumenta voluptatis  
 But now to do that I can for  
 Agayn the syn of Glotony / the remedy ys this  
 We scarcer dyet / than thou dyddst byfore  
 Beware of superfluyte / and surfet euer more  
 Take no more than sufficeth nature

Nor of delicate mete / set thou no store  
 Now haue I sayd all that longeth to my cure

chasty. And I must nedys / conserme hys sayeng  
 for as he reherfed / now ryght well  
 fluttryng of hote metys / and delicate fedynyng



Caufeth synfull lustye/in a man to dwell  
and ouer that/thys ys my counsell  
Escheue Idelnes/byfore all thyng  
If thou wylt be chaste/and cleane of luyng  
Escheue also the cumpany/and the occasyon  
Of that syn/Whiche ys dampnable  
As sone as thou felest/any temptacion  
Put yt cleane away/by meanes couenable  
Of all other synnes/yt ys most abhomyrable  
and sonest wyl thy soule endaunger and blame  
There be so many great synnes/annexed to the same  
If thou lyst not/for fere of dampnacion  
thys syn to forbere/than on that other syde  
Do yt for loue/of thyn owne saluacion  
Thinke what rewarde/in heuen doth the abyde  
Whiche ys thou lye chaste/can not be denyde  
My wyl suffyseth not/to tell and expresse  
What ioy thou shalt haue/for thy chaste clenness

Man. I thank you both/for your aduise  
and now wold I speke/wyth repentaunce sayn

abstr. I can bring you to hym/on the best wyse

Man. I than wyl I aduert vpon you twayn  
and after that/I wyl com hyder agayn  
trustyng that god/wyl send me the grace  
to comfort my soule/wyth gostly solace

I Than they go out / Reason comyth in

I Here say/to my great ioy and gladnes  
that accordyng/to my counsell and aduise  
thys mortall creature/doth well hys besynes  
to correct and forsake/all hys old vyce  
And that he ys in good way/and lykely to aryse  
from the vale of syn/Whiche ys full of darknes  
toward the contemplacion/of lyght that ys endles

Lo sye/are not we all myche behold  
to our maker/for thys great pacience  
Whiche not wythstandyng/our synnes manyfold  
Wherein we dayly/do to hym offence  
yet of hys mercerfull/and great magnyfyence  
He doth not punyshe/as sone as we offende  
But suffereth in hope/that we wyl amend

He suffereth a synner/sometyme to endure  
A long lyfe in honour/and great prosperyte  
Tis a thyng/that dawns not in syn



And men a great daunger escapeth he  
Where good men peryshe / thys may ye se  
And all by cause / that he wold hym wyne  
and haue hym to tourne / and forsake hys syn

¶ Here cometh / he that I toke fore  
Hys haue ye done as I willed you to do

Man. ¶ Ye that haue I don / and what trod ye more

I haue ben wyth / repentaunce also  
Whyshe fro my hart / shall neuer go  
for he brought me / vnto confessyon  
And anon I was acquainted / with hartys contricion

¶ They aduysed and charged / me to do satisfaccyon  
and so haue I don / to my best power

Rea. ¶ Than art thou fully / the chyld of saluacyon

Haue good perseueraunce / and be not in fere  
thy gostly enemy / can put the in no daunger  
and greter reward / thou shalt therefore wyne

¶ Than he that neuer in hys lyfe dyd syn

¶ And to thentent / that thou mayst well  
Perseuer and contynue / in thys sure way  
Or we depart hens / by my counsell

¶ Let vs by one accord / togeder syng and pray  
Wyth as humble deuocyon / as we can or may  
That we may haue grace / from syn thus to ryse  
as often as we fall and let vs pray thys wyse

¶ Then they syng some goodly ballet.

¶ The names of the players.

Nature.

Wrath.

Lyberalite.

Man.

Envy.

Chastyte

Reason.

Glouth.

Good occupacyon.

Sensualyte.

Glotony.

Shamefastn. &

Innocence.

Dumptyte.

Mundus.

Worldly affectyon.

Charyte.

Pacience.

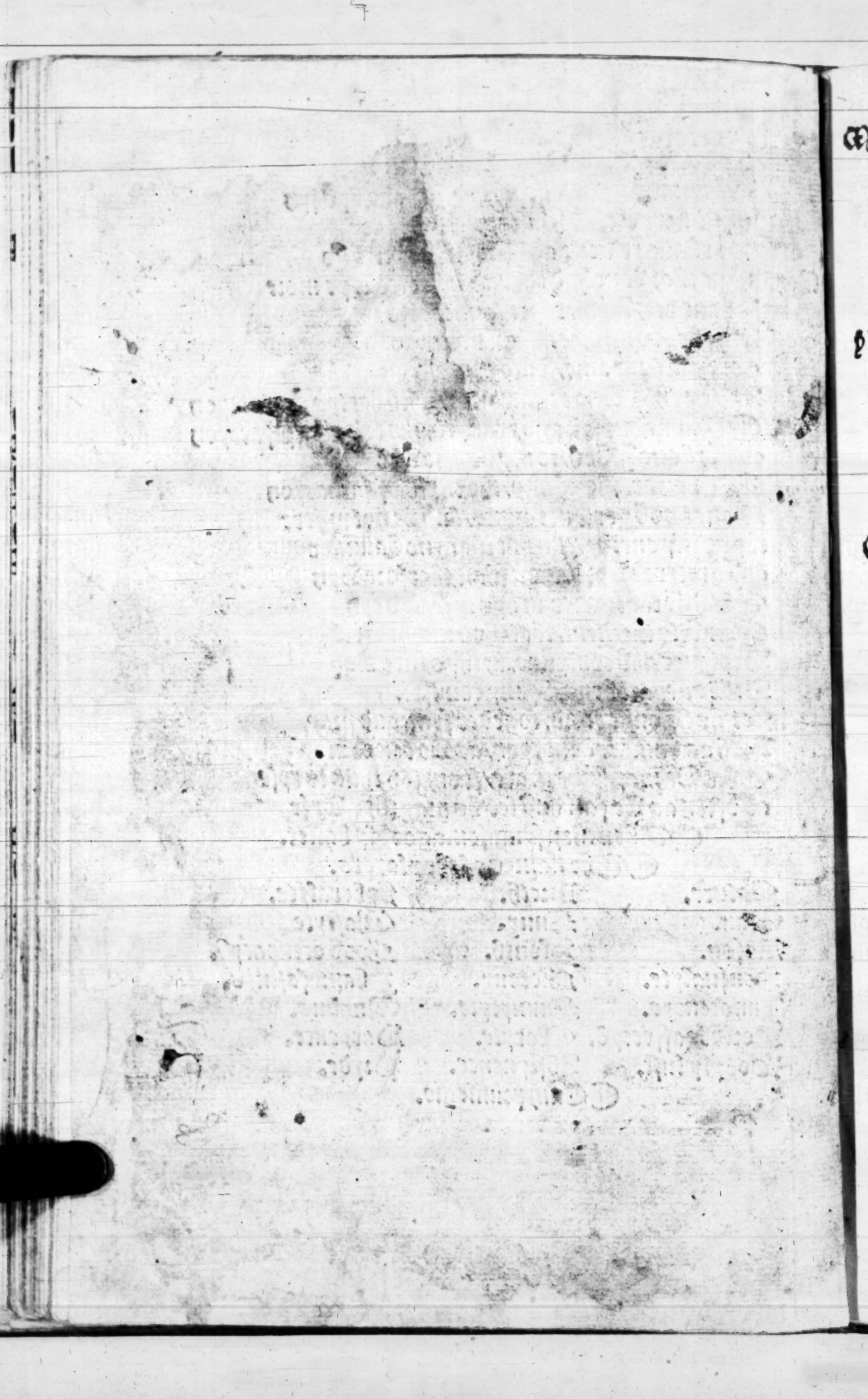
Bodyly lust.

Abstynence.

Pryde.

¶ Cum priuilegio.







Now addresse you therto/and demeane you thus  
I shalbe to you/euer good and prosperouse

Man. **E**xpr: I thank you/of thys curtesy  
Vnderferued as yet/but be ye sure  
I shall my selfe/endeuour by spyl  
to do that may be/to your pleasure  
And for the season/that I shall her endure  
I shall theyn cherpe/and to my power mayntayne  
That vnto you in any wyse do partayne

p Wor. **T**han to bygyn wryth all/I wyl aduryse you  
to put thys man/from your company  
I tell you/euery man wyl despyse you  
As long as ye/be ruled by innocency  
to folow suche counsell/yt ys but foly  
for he can nerther good nerther euyl  
and therfore he ys taken/but for a dyspysll

Man. **B**y my farth/euyn as ye say  
It lyketh me not ryght well  
Wryth innocency longe to dwell  
therfore accordyng to your counsell  
I wyl not after thys day  
wryth hys company my selfe affere  
As me wet as yt were a gray frete  
I suppose there ys no man here  
What soeuer he be  
That could in in hys mynde be content  
all wayes to be called an innocent  
Wherfore yt ys myne intent  
to do as ye aduryse me

p Wor. **E**ye hardely do euyn so  
Inno. **F**orsoth and I hold me well content  
to departe at your commaundement  
ye shall fynde me obedyent  
What soeuer ye byd me do

**H**ere innocencye goeth out.

sensua **S**o the company ys well amend  
Let hym go to the deupll of hell  
He ys but a boy I warn you well  
and shuld ye folow hys counsell  
All myghty god defend  
yf euer ye lust to play the man  
It ys tyme th at ye now bygan  
Wary to play the boy now and than



For your dysport and ioynt  
It forceth not though ye do  
Whan ye may haue teryer therto  
And among I wyll helpe you also  
In due tyme and place

y Wor. Tye that ye wyll in dede  
But now I wyll ye any thyng  
Commaund me byfore my departyng

Man. Nothyng at all to my wytyng  
But our lord haue you in hys kyping  
And send you well to spede

y Wor. Worldly affeccyon come hyder/ye are polypthyke  
and myche better enured/in thys world than I  
I pray you dyspose for me/as ye thynk most lyke  
That I may lye here well and honorably

y Wor. Tye I shall. Dout ye not hardely  
yf yt lyke you/to put me in so great trust  
And I trew ye shall fynde me/trew and iust

Man. I wote well I shall. Surely you be bound  
To the world/that hath gyuen you so great comendacyon

y Wor. Tye I pray some men had leuer than a thousand pound  
They myght be commended/of the same fassyon  
But I pray let passe/all thys comendacyon  
and answer to me/I pray you frute fully  
In that I shall meue you/substantially  
I pray at few wordys/I you exhorte  
Hrth that ye be come to your own  
Cast your selfe to bere suche a porte  
That as ye be/ye may be knowen  
Eke yt ys necessary/for that behoue  
that there be made/some maner of puruauice

Wherby/ye may bere out your countenaunce  
I wyll yt lyke you therfore/that I suruey  
And se the extent/of all your land  
and there bypon/in all the hast puruey  
Both for you and yours/all maner of brand  
With other vtensyltye/redy at your hand  
So that ye be puruerd/all tymes erely and late  
Of eche thyng/that belongeth to your estate

Man. Your counsell ys good/do as ye thynk best  
I comyt all suche thyng/to your dyscrecyon  
I shall do my trew/byspyes at the lest  
To byryng all thyngys/to good conclusyon



Dyde I Hyr I shall tell the how / When I am in  
To thy masters serurce I wyl first begyn  
To set hys hart on a mercy pryn  
And byd hym make good chere  
I wyl byd hym / thynk how he ys create  
To be a worthy potestate  
And eke that he ys predestynate  
to be a prynces pere  
And other thyngs more than thys  
I shall byng that hart of hys  
To be more howt than yt ys  
By a de wys ase  
Specrally I wyl commend hys wyrt  
That no man can amend yt  
And that he ys able therby to syt  
as a iuge in comen place  
And when I praysse hym thys wyse  
I thynke hys hart wyl begyn to ryse  
and after that vitterly despyse  
any opay counsell to here  
He shall trust all to hys own brayne  
and than wold Reason neuer so farne  
Though he come and suche opyt wayn  
He shalbe neuer the nere

sensua I Surely thys conseyt ys well found  
I shall byng the in serurce for twaynty pound

Dyde I Gramercy brother I thynk me mych bound  
To the for thy curtesy  
But syr abyde here on thyng  
I wyl not be knowen that yt ys my sekynng

sensua I No more wold I for .xl. shelyng  
Let me alone hardely

sensua I Hyr ys yt please you here ys come a straunger  
That neuer was aquarynted wyth you ere  
Somwhat shamefast and halfe in fere  
To put hym selfe in prese  
A goodly parson be ye sure  
Both of countenaunce and of feature  
If he were drawn in portrapture  
And a good man doubtles  
ye and a wyse man at all  
Wyl yt please you that I hym call



to speke wyth you. ¶ Ma. Byd hym com. ¶ He. I shall  
Byd wyll ye come nere.

sensua ¶ He. Byd hym welcome for the maner sake  
Another day I am sure he wyll crake  
And say suche a gentylman dyd hym make  
Very great chere  
Desyre hym for to dwell wyth you  
I tell you he ys a man for your prow  
and knoweth the world well I now  
No man better than he

Man. ¶ He. ye be welcom to thys place

Dyde ¶ I thanke you syr/ but I do you trespace  
to come thus homly. ¶ Sensua. ye a parlous case  
God wote ye are welcom heder  
On my farth by my wyll  
ye shall dwell wyth vs styll  
Go nere to hym and talk your syl  
I leue you togeder

¶ He goeth forth.

Man. ¶ Now syr what haue ye to say to me

Dyde ¶ No great thyng syr/ but I come to se  
And to know what maner man ye be  
That all men prayseth so mouche

Man. ¶ Praise whom prayse they. ¶ Dyde. Marry you

Man me. ¶ Dyde. ye syr I make myne auow

They grue you a praysyng good I now  
I harde neuer none suche  
and surely ye be ryght wurthy  
I se well now they do not ly  
and therefore I dyd my hyder hy  
To acquaint me wyth you

But ye may say that I am bold

Man. ¶ May ye ar worth thy weyght of gold

We thenketh me to you myche behold

I pray you what ys your name

Dyde ¶ My name ys wurshyp. ¶ Man. Wurshyp now surely

The world told me yt was my destyny

To come to wurshyp or I dre

Dyde ¶ Truly I am the same

Man. ¶ Now wurshyp I pray you me tell

your wysedom and also counsell

ye can aduertyse me passyng well

In thyngs that I haue to do



